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LD111434 [Editorial Report]

Iran-Iraq Conflict

Turkish Prime Minister Turgut Ozal announced in a news conference reported by Ankara radio that both sides had responded "positively" to his appeal for an end to the war of the cities. Iran agreed to the call immediately, he said, while Iraq announced its readiness to stop its missile attacks at 1300 GMT 11 March.

Without mentioning Ozal's appeal, an Iraqi spokesman cited by INA confirmed Iraq's intention to stop its bombardment of Iranian cities by 1300 GMT, but stressed that this step is conditional on five principles. These are: The last shelling operation must be an Iraqi one because Iran "began the cities war;" Iraq will resume the bombardment if Iran attacks Iraqi cities or residential areas; Iraq will resume shelling if Iran attacks "any Arab city;" Iraq will also resume shelling if Iran carries out a new "aggression" against Iraqi territory; and Iraq will still have the right to hit economic targets that serve the Iranian war machine.

For Iran's part, Prime Minister Mir Hoseyn Musavi confirmed that Iran accepts Ozal's request, emphasizing that Iran will stop its attacks if there is a "complete cessation" of Iraqi missile and air attacks, Tehran radio reported. However, he added that Iran will "intensify" its "retaliatory" measures if Iraq refrains from accepting the Turkish request. A Foreign Ministry spokesman cited by IRNA also disclosed that Iran's agreement to halt the war of the cities is in response to an appeal by the International Committee of the Red Cross.

Despite these moves toward an end to the bombardment, the attacks continued 10-11 March with further missile exchanges and waves of Iraqi air strikes on Iranian targets. Iraqi statements carried by Voice of the Masses and Baghdad radios announced 13 missile strikes on Tehran and Qom between 1450 GMT 10 March and 1244 11 March, while other statements announced 30 air raids on Iranian targets.

The cities hit included Dezful, Hamadan, Khorramabad, Arak, Borujerd, and Ardabil, while other targets included oil and power installations in Shushtar, a helicopter pad in Masjed-e Soleyman, a radio transmission station in Ilam, and a large maritime target in the Gulf. An Iranian claim to have downed three Iraqi jets 10 March was denied by an Iraqi spokesman cited by INA.

Iran responded with two missile strikes on Baghdad, announced in an IRGC statement reported by IRNA. An Iraqi spokesman cited by Baghdad radio acknowledged one missile attack on the Iraqi capital, noting that a number of civilians were killed. Iran also "escalated" its artillery attacks on Basra 11 March, while two Iranian aircraft raided the Kallar area of Al-Sulaymaniyah, according to INA.

On the effects of the latest Iraqi strikes on Iran, IRNA stated that eight people were killed and 20 wounded in the missile bombardment of Tehran and Qom. Iraqi air raids caused many casualties including "scores" in Borujerd, the agency said. Tehran radio reported that over 31 Iranians were killed in Iraqi attacks on Tehran and other cities earlier on 10 March, claiming that a hospital was hit during a raid on Shushtar.

As for the damage caused by Iranian missile attacks, IRGC Minister Mohsen Rafiqdust stated in a roundtable discussion carried by Tehran television that Iranian missiles have hit the station housing Baghdad television's Channel 1, and he claimed that Iran's Scud-B missiles are more accurate than the modified version fired by Iraq.

Israel

A Gaza refugee camp resident was shot dead by an IDF officer during a riot 10 March, Jerusalem radio reported, adding that the officer opened fire when the lives of his soldiers were in danger. The radio also noted that 10 Arabs were arrested during further violent disturbances in Hebron.

Among other developments affecting the occupied territories, Jerusalem television disclosed that the administrative detention of Palestinian activist Faysal al-Husayni has been extended another 3 months. Al-Husayni, who is the director of the Arab Studies Research Center, is among some 230 Palestinians currently under administrative detention. Sixty Arab policemen have resigned their jobs in Judaea, according to Jerusalem radio. Meanwhile, PLO activists have distributed a leaflet calling on all Jordanian parliamentarians living in the territories to resign, the radio noted.

Inter-Arab Diplomacy, Comment

Talks in Damascus between Jordan's King Husayn and Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad focused on the regional situation in light of the "uprising" in the occupied territories, Damascus television reported. Husayn and Al-Asad also discussed the importance of bolstering the "steadfastness of the kinfolk" and providing requirements for continuing the uprising. Amman radio had earlier said the discussion would deal with "urgent Arab issues." Husayn is also expected to visit Cairo 11 March for talks with President Husni Mubarak, MENA noted.

In another commentary on the Shultz proposals, Damascus radio said they seek to "maneuver, mislead, trick, and win time" in an attempt to quell the uprising and lure the Arabs into separate "capitulationist" negotiations with Israel under the "glittering, impressive slogans" of an international conference and legitimate Palestinian rights. If the international conference is to devise a just, comprehensive peace, it must be an "effective, authoritative exercise" bound by UN resolutions, including those calling for an independent Palestinian state and for Israeli evacuation of all the occupied land, the commentary added.

In another development, PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat and Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi held a meeting during which they agreed on the need to call an extraordinary Arab summit in April, Algiers Voice of Palestine radio reported.

Libya

JANA carried a final statement issued by the General People's Congress which lauded the new leadership in Tunisia for putting that country "on the right track" and enabling Tunisians to "regain their role." Expressing solidarity with this "new era" in Tunisia, the congress voiced approval for Libyan-Tunisian programs for cooperation and integration, and stressed the need to promote Maghreb unity. A call for unity with Tunisia was also among the list of foreign policy goals proclaimed in the congress resolutions broadcast by Tripoli television earlier. Another resolution called for Libyan membership in the friendship treaty among Algeria, Tunisia, and Mauritania, on condition that the borders drawn up by colonialism should "not be recognized." On relations with the United States, a resolution reaffirmed Libya's insistence on seeking compensation for the U.S. "aggression" against Libya in 1986. The resolutions also announced the names of the new General People's Committee, the General People's Caongress Secretariat, and other appointments.

In other Libyan developments, AFP reported that 36 Egyptians were among the prisoners released from Libyan jails recently. Tripoli television disclosed that Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi held a telephone conversation with Panama's Brigadier General Manuel Noriega, who asked for Libyan support against the U.S. "military aggression and economic threats" aimed against Panama.

Afghanistan: Geneva Talks

Pakistani Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Zain Noorani denied Afghan charges that Pakistan has created obstacles to the talks, and he said "very difficult" issues are being resolved in the current round of negotiations, Islamabad radio reported. Nevertheless, the negotiations are "extremely complicated" and every issue must be resolved "cautiously," he added.

In contrast, a Soviet spokesman cited by TASS asserted that the negotiations have been stalled for a week because of Pakistan's tactics of "marking time, evading agreement" and submitting fresh demands "contrary to an understanding."

Islamic Affairs

Conference Criticizes Iran, Hails 'Uprising'

NC082120 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1600 GMT 8 Mar 88

[Excerpts] Cairo, 8 Mar (MENA)—The World Islamic Call Conference concluded its work in Cairo today with a recommendation for the establishment of a world Islamic council for call and relief, a body envisaged to embrace all the institutions and organizations active in the fields of Islamic call, relief, and the training of Muslim preachers.

The conference recommended that Al-Azhar should act jointly with the Islamic World League and the World Islamic Expertise Organization in Kuwait to organize a constitutive meeting to lay down plans, by-laws, and other organizational measures needed to set up the proposed body and its branches.

Participants in the conference noted there is a need to coordinate work among the institutions involved in Islamic propagation, as well as relief work in the Muslim world.

The participants also stated the need for God's law to be implemented in every aspect of Muslim life, saying the word of God should have precedence over man-made laws and should be honored by all Muslims.

The conferees reiterated opinions expressed earlier in Al-Azhar and other Muslim organizations and forums to the effect that the Baha'i, (Qadyani), and Ahmadi doctrines are extraneous to Islam and that followers of these doctrines cannot be considered Muslims. The conferees called on all Muslims, rulers and subjects, to combat these doctrines and denounce their followers.

The conferees stressed that the current regime in Iran is founded on a wrong doctrinal and theological basis, that it favors a system of government by ulema, and that it tries to export this system to the Muslim world outside its borders to divide Muslims and damage their cause. The conferees called on Muslim forums, organizations, and thinkers to combat this thinking and expose its deviation from the Koran, the teachings of the prophet, and norms accepted by the Muslim public as a whole. [passage omitted]

The conference also issued a condemnation of the acts perpetrated during last year's pilgrimage in Mecca by some Iranians. The acts, which were planned by the Iranian regime, constituted a desecration of the holy city, the conference's final statement said. It also voiced rejection of the call for internationalization of the two holy mosques, as an idea which conflicts with God's injunctions, the prophet's teachings, and the norms accepted by the Muslim public. It constitutes a violation of the established tenets of Islam as endorsed by all Muslim ulema. [passage omitted]

The conference also paid tribute to the Palestinian popular uprising in the face of occupation. The uprising, the statement said, symbolizes Muslim determination to resist attempts to smother their character and will.

The conference urged all Muslims, peoples and governments, to give material and moral backing to the inhabitants of the occupied territories until the uprising attains its goal in ending the injustice and ridding the holy places of Zionist occupation. [passage omitted]

Palestinian Affairs

PLO 'Officially' Approves Arab Summit Call

LD101458 Kuwait KUNA in English 1359 GMT 10 Mar 88

[Text] Tunis, March 10 (KUNA)—The Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) has officially communicated its approval for the call made by the Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid to convene an Arab summit urgently to discuss the situation arising out of the popular Paestinian uprising in all occupied Arab lands.

Informed sources here told KUNA Thursday that the PLO has communicated its approval in a letter addressed to the secretary general of the Arab League, Chadli Klibi recently.

However, these sources said that the Arab League Secretariat here has not received the official approval for the Arab summit from any of the Arab League member states.

These sources further said that Chadli Klibi was constantly in touch with the Arab League member-states in a bid to muster their official support for convening an Arab summit urgently.

Summit Urged 1st Week of April

LD101945 Algiers Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1702 GMT 10 Mar 88

[Text] Brother leader Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] has conferred with Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi.

They discussed the latest developments in the Palestinian and Arab situation, especially hastening the convention of the Arab summit called for by Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid, so our Arab nation may play an effective pan-Arab role in supporting the uprising of our people and their just struggle under the leadership of the PLO, their sole legitimate representative.

In this meeting they stressed the necessity of holding this summit in the first week of April.

'Arafat Appeals to Iran To End Gulf War

LD101931 Algiers Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1702 GMT 10 Mar 88

[Text] The brother leader, Abu Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat], today addressed an appeal for ending the Iraq-Iran war, in which he said that rescuing Jerusalem and the other shrines in sacred Palestine needs the efforts, blood, money, and weapons which are thrown into this war. He said the Palestinian people, using children, women, and the blood of the martyrs and injured against this enemy and war machine, today, more than any other time look forward to the immediate end of this war now more than ever because it will help them in their struggle and strife.

Here is the text of the appeal:

In the name of the Palestinian people, in the name of the Palestinian fighters, and in the name of the sacred places in the sacred land of Palestine. With all confidence and hope, I appeal for an end to this war between Iraq and Iran as soon as possible. This would benefit the Iranian and Iraqi peoples, Islamic and Arab countries, and all subjugated peoples.

The Palestinian people, using the bodies of their children and women and the blood of their martyrs and injured against this Zionist enemy and his infernal war machine and his allies, today more than any other time look forward to an immediate end to this war. The ending of this war would be a very important factor in helping the Palestinian people in their struggle and fighting.

I appeal to the entire Iranian leadership and to the honorable men of religion in the seminary to accept Resolution No 598 and the agreements reached at the Islamic summits, especially as Iraq has accepted them. This is for the sake of ending this war, whose continuation means the continuation of the painful loss of Muslim blood.

The only one to benefit from this war is Israel and its allies and the prime loser in this war is the Palestinian cause and the shrines in Palestine. Rescuing the first qiblah and the third holy mosque needs these efforts, blood, money, and weapons whose use continues this war.

From my place and because of my responsibilities, I repeat the appeal to the Iranian leadership and to all religious learned men and ulema who are sincere and all men of religion in Iran to accept these resolutions and initiatives in order to immediately stop this war, to spare the blood of Muslims, and for the sake of Islam and Muslims and the conquered peoples and in order to rescue the first qiblah and the third holy mosque in Jerusalem and the other shrines in sacred Palestine.

I pray this appeal will find an echo in Muslim hearts and minds. May God be my witness, I have told them; May God be my witness, I have told them. [quotation from the prophet's last speech] And say: Work, soon God will observe your work, and his apostle and the believers. [quotation from the Koran] God has spoken the truth. May God be behind our aim.

Al-Wazir Says PLO Rejects Shultz Initiative

LD110958 Kuwait KUNA in English 0840 GMT 11 Mar 88

[Text] Kuwait, March 11 (KUNA)—A prominent Palestinian official was quoted as saying in an interview Friday that there is a new Syrian trend to "regulate" relations with the PLO. Deputy General Commander of the Palestinian Forces Khalil al-Wazir (Abu Jihad) told AL-WATAN newspaper that this new position was conveyed to the PLO by the Algerian foreign minister.

Abu Jihad, who was speaking in Amman where he attended the joint Jordanian-Palestinian committee meetings concluded yesterday, said that the PLO is waiting for fixing a date by Syria for a Palestinian delegation to visit Damascus.

On relations between the PLO and Jordan, Abu Jihad said meetings have taken place recently between the two sides and PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat is going to visit Amman within the next few days at the invitation of King Husayn of Jordan. He admitted that there are political differences between the PLO and Jordan, but he said this should not prevent contacts.

He reiterated the Palestinian rejection to the new U.S. initiative presented by American Secretary of State George Shultz. He added that the PLO will not accept attending the proposed international peace conference through an Arab or joint Palestinian-Jordanian delegation saying that things have changed and "we insist on participating through an independent delegation."

Al-Quds Radio on Treatment of 'Collaborators'

JN101142 (Clandestine) Al-Quds Palestinian Arab Radio in Arabic 0850 GMT 10 Mar 88

[Text] Brother strugglers, heroes of the uprising: Collaborators with the enemy and its agents, who are aliens to their people, have no excuse. The arm of the masses has reached many of those. No traitor will evade punishment unless he repents and goes back to his people. However, Al-Quds radio draws the attention of our brothers throughout Palestine to the following:

1. An individual may not be labeled an agent by an individual or a group of individuals. It must be done by the popular and nationalist committees in the territories.

2. Punishment shall be directed to the agent personally. It is not our ethics or traditions, nor it is just, to direct our anger and revenge toward his brothers, family, or house. The house does not lodge the agent alone, but also his children and wife, who are Palestinian citizens who must be protected and sheltered.

3. Beware of any infiltration by armed elements from enemy organs into your ranks with the aim of diverting the course of struggle through the creation of sideline conflicts that distract your attention from your uprising and disintegrate your struggle.

It is in the interests of the enemy to exploit any available opportunity to lessen the strength of your strikes through diverting them to your internal ranks. This enemy will lose nothing if any number of Palestinians are killed and it does not care for those who accepted for themselves the stigma of agentry.

4. We must be vigilant and check the identity of any individual who performs an odd act. Before getting carried away, we must ask ourselves: Does such conduct represent our convictions or is it strange and unfamiliar? No doubt you can distinguish between good and bad. God is with us. Victory is near. We are together in the path of liberating land and man.

South Asian Regional Affairs

Talks To Resolve Afghanistan Issue Continue

10 March Session Detailed

BK110245 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 11 Mar 88

[Text] The proximity talks on Afghanistan continued in Geneva yesterday. After the talks, Zain Noorani, the minister of state for foreign affairs, said that very difficult issues, which outsiders have trouble understanding, are now being resolved in the current round of negotiations.

Zain Noorani denied the Afghan regime's allegations that Pakistan was creating obstacles in the talks.

The United Nations envoy, Cordovez, told newsmen that today he will have separate meetings with the two delegations again. He stated there are problems as well as opportunities. It is the duty of the interlocutors to take advantage of the opportunities to resolve the problems. The negotiations are extremely complicated and every issue must be resolved very carefully.

According to the Voice of America, yesterday's talks were devoted mainly to issues relating to Soviet aid to the Kabul regime and U.S. assistance to the Afghan mujahidin.

The Pakistani ambassador in Iran, Firoz Khan, met with the Iranian prime minister and the foreign secretary in Tehran yesterday and briefed them on the status of the Geneva negotiations.

'Abdul Wakil News Conference

LD110654 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0418 GMT 11 Mar 88

[Text] Geneva March 10, BAKHTAR—Afghan Foreign Minister 'Abdul Wakil said at a press conference here on Wednesday that the Afghan delegation to the Afghan-Pakistani talks held through Diego Cordovez, personal envoy of the U.N. secretary general, showing political will and taking a constructive stand had agreed to a withdrawal of Soviet troops within nine months.

However, this joint positive step by the Soviet Union and Afghanistan had not found due response from Pakistan, Wakil said. Although Pakistan had insisted earlier that a solution of this key problem would leave no obstacles to agreement.

"Now we see that although all unresolved issues are practically settled, Pakistan is resorting to impermissible manoeuvring with a view to dragging out the talks and bringing them to a deadlock," Wakil said.

"One should say that the trip by Pakistani chief negotiator Noorani to Islamabad did not yield anything specific and definite. Actually he returned empty-handed. So it was a manoeuvre to gain time and prevent the completion and signing of agreements.

"The Pakistani side is ignoring the earlier-reached understanding that the sides should raise no new issues that could hinder the talks. In other words, Pakistan's current tactics are aimed at disrupting the course of these negotiations," the Afghan foreign minister said.

"Our stand is clear-cut. Afghanistan and the Soviet Union have done everything they could to settle the situation around Afghanistan. We hope that the remaining problems will be settled with the feeling of responsibility and political courage shown.

"This is why, despite the obstacles put up by Pakistan, Afghanistan is fully resolved to go forward, seek the solution of the problems, complete the drafting of an agreement and sign it. We are convinced that this is important for peace in the region and for peace around the world," Wakil said.

Answering newsmen's questions, Wakil said that the issue of forming a coalition government should not be decided either in Washington, or in Moscow, or in Islamabad, or in Geneva. This issue concerns only Afghans, he said, and they should decide it among themselves.

Wakil added that no country could impose its form of government to an independent and sovereign state as Afghanistan is.

"The Afghan leadership is seriously considering the issue of forming a coalition government on the basis of national unity. It will continue efforts in this direction and is not going to slow down the process of national reconciliation and the solution of the coalition government issue.

"It would be a mistake to think that we will yield to Pakistan's diktat in this issue" the foreign minister said.

"According to the U.N. Charter and international law, no state has a right to impose its terms on another state as regards the formation of a future government," Wakil emphasised.

"This, throughout the military rule of Ziaul Haq in Pakistan, Afghanistan has never demanded that the ruling regime in that country be toppled and that a democratic order be established there."

Wakil said that one could not draw parallels between U.S. assistance to opposition groups and the assistance the Soviet Union has rendered Afghanistan for 68 years.

"One should distinct [as received] between aid to terrorist groups and aid of one state to another. If the United States raises the issue of a 'symmetrical' cessation of the assistance to opposition forces and the state of Afghanistan, we can demand that it cease military and financial aid to Pakistan," the Afghan minister emphasised.

Egypt

Libya Hands Over 36 Prisoners to Authorities
NC101715 Paris AFP in English 1711 GMT 10 Mar 88

[Excerpt] Cairo, March 10 (AFP)—Thirty-six Egyptians serving prison sentences in Libya were released on Monday and Tuesday, police sources said here Thursday.

A first batch of 16 was released on Monday, with a further 20 being set free the next day.

The two groups were handed over to Egyptian military authorities in Egypt's western zone, bordering Libya, the police sources said.

It was not known Thursday whether the 36 men included three Egyptians imprisoned by Libya on charges of spying and whose release Egyptian President Husni Mubarak has demanded on several occasions.

The released men, who were serving sentences ranging from six to 16 years, were being interrogated Thursday by Egyptian police and undergoing close medical examination, the sources added. [passage omitted]

Asyut Islamic Students End 'Sit-In' 10 Mar
NC110514 Cairo MENA in English 1920 GMT 10 Mar 88

[Text] Asyut, Egypt, March 10 (MENA)—Students belonging to Islamic groups at Asyut University ended today their sit-in and hunger strike following a meeting of University President Dr. 'Abd al-Rabasan with their leaderships.

Major General 'Ali al-Banna, director of Asyut Security Directorate, said life was restored to normal after the striking students returned to their hostels and ended their strikes.

Further on Visit of Bulgarian Union Group

Meeting With Minister
NC081858 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1727 GMT 8 Mar 88

[Text] Cairo, 8 Mar (MENA)—Today 'Asim 'Abd al-Haq, minister of manpower and training, received the Bulgarian Chemical Industry Workers Union delegation, which is led by Union Chairman Ivan Simov and is currently visiting Cairo.

The meeting was attended by Anwar 'Ashmawi, deputy chairman of the Egyptian General Federation of Trade Unions and chairman of the General Union of Oil Workers, which is hosting the delegation.

The conferees reviewed the privileges Egyptian workers enjoy under the law and discussed relations between the ministry and trade unions.

The Bulgarian delegation arrived in Cairo last Thursday on a week-long visit to Egypt.

Cooperation Accord
NC091449 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1330 GMT 9 Mar 88

[Text] Cairo, 9 Mar (MENA)—Egyptian and Bulgarian chemical and oil worker trade unions will restore relations after a 12-year break in order to strengthen and develop ties, and to bring about cooperation and coordination between the two sides in various fields of interest.

This was stated by Anwar 'Ashmawi, chairman of the General Union of Oil Workers and deputy chairman of the Egyptian General Federation of Trade Unions, after the final session of talks.

The session was held this morning between the Egyptian General Federation of Trade Unions and a delegation from the Bulgarian Chemical Industry Workers Union, led by the Union Chairman Ivan Simov, who has been visiting Cairo since Thursday.

The Egyptian trade unions official said that the two sides have agreed to exchange expertise and information in various fields and to exchange visits by delegations at the general federation and trade union levels, according to a detailed program. This program, he added, will be planned in 2 months, when a delegation of the Egyptian General Federation of Trade Unions will visit Sofia.

'Ashmawi also said the two sides agreed that the Bulgarians will organize training and educational courses for the Egyptian cadres at the Bulgarian Trade Unions Georgi Dimitrov Institute for Workers Education. The Bulgarians will provide the Egyptian General Federation of Trade Unions with a program for these courses after they return to Sofia.

'Ashmawi added that a joint communique on the Bulgarian delegation's talks in Cairo will be issued at the conclusion of the delegation's visit tomorrow.

Papers Comment on Latest Palestinian Operation
NC090717 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0610 GMT 9 Mar 88

[Text] Cairo, 9 Mar (MENA)—AL-AKHBAR newspaper writes that the operation carried out by three Palestinian fedayeen in the vicinity of the Israeli nuclear reactor was another warning to leaders in Tel Aviv, and to the whole Israeli people, that they will not enjoy peace, that they will live in fear, and that all their weapons and fortifications will not guarantee their safety as long as there are Palestinian people who struggle and heroically give their lives to liberate their land.

In Wednesday's editorial, the paper says this incident will not be the last in the brave Palestinian epic. As long as there are strugglers who have faith in their cause and who are willing to put their lives on the line to restore their homeland, the battle will go on, and the present and future generations of Israelis will live in horror, and have no peace or security.

The paper adds: In their desperate attempt to prove their ability to subjugate the people in the occupied West Bank and Gaza, Israeli leaders have resorted to all known and even unprecedented means of repression. However, they have only proved their complete failure to the whole world.

The paper concludes that operations carried out by the PLO fedayeen against various Israeli targets constitute a vicious circle, which will not end until Israeli leaders abandon their arrogant and obstinate policies and eventually realize that the only way to end this situation is to accept peace.

Commenting on the same issue, AL-JUMHURIYAH writes that a very eloquent message—written by the blood of three Palestinian young men living in an atmosphere of repression, injustice, and occupation—has been addressed to the whole world, this time from within Israel.

The paper remarks that this incident confirms the constant rejection of the Israeli occupation, despite its might and its various repressive practices. The incident also proves that security cannot be established unless a just peace, which is acceptable to all parties concerned, has been established.

The paper adds that Israeli calls for retaliation were raised as usual, and a series of condemnations were made by the U.S. Government, which described the fedayeen as terrorists who kill innocent people, although they were all killed by Israeli bullets.

Unfortunately, the paper says, they did not understand, or rather pretended not to understand, the eloquent message which simply says that this is the result of violence and injustice.

The paper concludes that these fedayeen operations will not stop unless Israel admits that peace is real power, which is the right of all parties of the region.

Therefore, the paper says, there is no point in being obstinate or resorting to evasive methods. To end the bloodshed and allow everybody to live in peace and stability, the opportunity for reaching a just and comprehensive settlement must be seized.

Israeli, Palestinian Discords Hamper Peace

JN100800 Cairo AL-AHRAM in Arabic
7 Mar 88 p 7

[Editorial: "Notes!"]

[Text] There are two military fronts in Israel. The first is the occupation force and the second the settlers. Each of them helps the other in various ways toward the final outcome by dealing unified blows to the Palestinians.

In the same way, there are two political fronts, divergent in appearance, but the final outcome of their conflicting efforts, we believe, is the same: hampering a comprehensive Palestinian solution.

Nobody denies that the existing discord in Israel between the two leaders of the Likud and Labor—Shamir and Peres—is real, not simply a distribution of roles.

In general, it is a discord between two political mentalities, one wanting to freeze the present for the sake of the past, and the other wanting some freedom for the present for the sake of the future.

However, this discord, which is less than a rupture or split, has obviously added a new burden to the peace efforts. They have made the objective—a comprehensive solution—move farther away, despite the current intensification of efforts. For example, to the Shultz mission and others seeking a solution, the problem has obviously become double-edged.

Such efforts now have two parts: first, to achieve an accord between Shamir and Peres or their followers—those who call for fanaticism or intransigence and those who want at least to look into peace proposals favorably and objectively; second, to achieve an accord between these followers and the stands of the Arabs inside and outside [the occupied territories], assuming that these stands are unified.

Despite the fact that the Shultz tour did not include meetings with the Palestinian political side, we notice that the reaction of this side was not unified in a way that can expose and make good use of the Israeli division. This was evident in the contradictions in the stands of the forces inside and outside [the occupied territories].

The forces inside refused to meet with Shultz, saying that they represent a "unified front" and that their position was not a result of pressure or a request from the PLO, but rather an expression of a special collective stand that rejects U.S. attempts to divide the Palestinians.

However, we find that the outside forces expressed readiness to hold this meeting without preconditions. And while reports were circulating about "a Palestinian decision" to violate the Cairo agreement and step up operations against Israel's interests abroad, in retaliation for Israel's violations in the occupied territories, the "outside" leaderships hastened to deny this and said that they adhere to the agreement.

The conclusion is that the Palestinian side in general, like the Israeli side in general, has witnessed "similar disagreements." The disagreements in the Israeli side pushed the final solution farther away; the Palestinian disagreements did not try to bring it closer.

Libya

Panama's Noriega Asks for Support Against U.S.

LD102109 Tripoli Television Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 10 Mar 88

[Text] Brigadier General Manuel Noriega, commander of Panama's Army and National Guard, contacted the brother leader of the revolution by telephone. During this telephone contact, Gen Noriega asked the brother leader for the support and backing of the Great Jamahiriyah, on behalf of the Panamanian people, in dealing with U.S. military aggression and economic threats directed against Panama.

General People's Congress Adopts Resolutions

LD100936 Tripoli Television Service in Arabic 1924 GMT 9 Mar 88

[Resolutions adopted by the General People's Congress in Ra's Al-Unuf; date of adoption not given; read by unidentified speaker—live; all numbering as heard]

[Text] We begin reading the resolutions formulated by the General People's Congress at this current session.

In the name of God. Resolutions of the basic people's congresses at their third ordinary session for 1987, formulated by the general meeting of the people's congresses and people's committees—the General People's Congress—at its 14th session, 2-9 March 1988.

The subjects broached by the brother leader in his address at the General People's Congress:

I.

A. Reorganizing society in a way ensuring a productive society.

The resolution: The basic people's congresses have debated the contents of the address of the brother leader and decided to reorganize society in a way ensuring a productive jamahiri [of the masses] society, with emphasis on the following remarks made by the basic people's congresses:

1. Expanding training and training women to replace men in the administrative apparatuses.

2. Attaching importance to the productive family program, encouraging cooperatives, and making available the products they require.

3. Giving consideration to the nature of the regions, use of local raw materials, and giving incentives in centers of production.

4. Ensuring administrative stability for productive projects and the recruiting of graduates of vocational training centers at centers of production.

5. Affirming the need for expansion in primary industries and exploiting local resources.

6. Supporting the strategic projects with oil revenues.

7. Laying down good plans for the success of programs.

8. Obliging competent quarters to present detailed reports on both positive and negative aspects.

9. Encouraging reverse emigration [from cities to countryside] to stop the overgrowth of the services sector and the administrative sector, and formulating programs to ensure coordination between agricultural and production congresses.

B. Linking imports to production. The basic people's congresses have discussed the linking of imports to production and approved it in accordance with the following remarks:

1. Use of modern technology in production.

2. Setting up import-export companies.

3. According importance to maritime resources and promoting them.

4. Cutting taxes on local production, and granting loans to encourage local production.

5. Ensuring the availability of farming and industrial inputs of all types to enable citizens to increase production rates.

6. Securing international contributions in order to benefit from the training of nationals.

7. Looking to local resources and promoting them in the production programs.

8. Creating alternative resources to oil, and formulating scientific programs ensuring its continuity and marketing.

C. Benefiting from abandoned farm land: The basic people's congresses have debated the issue of benefiting from abandoned farm land, and approved it, with the following remarks:

1. Distributing the nonviable farming projects to citizens.

2. Inventorying abandoned land and making social reports about the owners so as to ensure an increase in production.

3. Working out norms for those benefiting from abandoned land in order to avoid repeated abandonment of land.

4. Affirming the implementation of the slogan: The land is not the property of anyone.

5. Studying the possibility of setting up public projects on these lands.

6. Sticking to carrying out the law on firm protection of farm land and forests.

7. Encouraging farming cooperatives and agricultural congresses.

8. Offering facilities to ensure the availability of arming inputs in order to satisfy needs.

Taking account of the water situation when expanding agricultural areas.

D. Strategic Projects:

The basic people's congresses studied the construction of strategic projects and approved them, taking the following notes into consideration:

1. Consolidating the great man-made river from the development budget while stressing the construction of dams and reservoirs.

2. Accelerating the pace of coastal fortification and drafting a program for this fortification to deter any aggression launched from the sea.

3. Studying the economic feasibility of existing projects.

4. Concentrating on those industries that use locally available raw materials.

5. Taking interest in projects that generate revenue as an alternative to oil.

6. Achieving a state of food security and finding real alternatives to petroleum to guarantee self-sufficiency and to fortify society against any possible pressures in the future.

7. Ensuring that training goes hand in hand with important strategic projects that we can rely on.

8. Guaranteeing the establishment of seawater desalination stations.

9. Working to attain Arab economic integration to face up to the international economic blocs.

10. Providing technical training to national cadres so they can run strategic industrial projects.

11. Transferring ownership of medium-sized factories to the producers to guarantee increased production, while establishing development factories in industrial complexes.

12. Consolidating the Ra's Lanuf strategic project while highlighting the need for scientific studies, which will prevent poor results and mistakes in projects.

Safeguarding Agricultural Wealth:

A. The basic people's congresses discussed the safeguarding of agricultural wealth and approved the idea, subject to the following:

1. Halting encroachment on agricultural land through construction work, and forbidding the felling of fruit trees. Applying the penalties stipulated by the law on the protection of agricultural land.

2. Providing good seedlings and nursery plants.

3. Establishing factories based on agricultural production and olive presses.

4. Creating cold-storage plants and warehouses to keep the seasonal production until the time of marketing and manufacturing.

5. Reorganizing the forestry guard.

6. Stopping imports of material produced locally in sufficient quantities.

7. Taking an interest in palm and olive trees, while setting out restrictions to stop those who may tamper with them. This will also support the agricultural congresses.

8. Encouraging farmers to plant palm and olive trees and to grant them agricultural loans.

9. Emphasizing the role played by the revolutionary agricultural guide and expanding the program of agricultural information.

10. Granting loans needed to build storage tanks and wells, while prospecting for and exploiting water resources in the best possible way.

Supply According To Need:

Resolution: The basic people's congresses discussed the principle of supply according to need and approved it on condition that the following points be taken into account:

1. Meeting the people's daily consumption requirements through cooperatives and other socialist channels.

2. Organizing the relationship between the markets and consumers' societies, while accelerating the growth of those societies.

3. Using the consumption booklet in reference to costly commodities and durable goods.

4. Taking account of the number of members in families, as well as the Libyan Arab tradition and way of life.

5. Distributing goods according to the population density in municipalities.

6. Conducting a scientific study into the needs of the jamahiri society.

7. Stressing the opening of workshops to do routine maintenance.

8. Making requirements available according to the seasons of the year, while taking public tastes into account in importing goods. Local production is to be encouraged, and those commodities that cannot be locally produced are to be imported.

Memorandum on the Revolutionary Program Together With Executive Documents:

1. The basic people's congresses reviewed the memorandum on the revolutionary program and approved it for use in building the producer society. All human and material resources are to be used to their maximum capacity so as to free the national economy from the domination of oil by finding an alternative and reaffirming past resolutions.

2. Education at home:

The basic people's congresses discussed the subject of education at home and decided to postpone the implementation of this issue completely. At the same time, those who wish to follow this course will have freedom of choice, and are to be given educational materials and textbooks. Freedom of education will be highlighted, as well.

III. Jamahiri Neighborhoods, Jamahiri Society: Organized collective action. Voluntary rotational action.

A. Jamahiri neighborhoods: The basic people's congresses debated and approved the notion of jamahiri neighborhoods with the following observations:

1. Establishing scientific programs, which will be run with sufficient planning.

2. Making a start using a limited number of neighborhoods as models for implementation. High density population centers should be emphasized here.

3. Supporting the implementation of the (?idea) of jamahiri neighborhoods from the general treasury and retaining dues for the benefit of the neighborhood in question.

4. Providing material and technical resources and preparing the required objective studies for the success of the jamahiri neighborhood project.

5. Presenting reports to the basic people's congresses assessing the progress of the jamahiri neighborhood project.

6. Reexamining legislation that may hinder jamahiri neighborhoods.

B. Jamahiri Society:

The basic people's congresses debated and approved the jamahiri society on the basis of the following observations:

1. Supplying the necessary resources to make the system succeed.

2. Providing guarantees and resources to ensure the success of the jamahiri society. This to be done by conducting and deepening realistic, scientific studies of those positions that are to be turned into a great mass (?of people).

3. Widening the base of vocational and technical training of those covered by the jamahiri society.

4. Noting the need to conduct a sample scientific experiment, which will be subject to evaluation.

5. Applying the jamahiri society in general agricultural and productive positions.

6. Providing the resources need to implement this program by authorizing the people's committees of the congresses to draft a practical plan to make the idea a success.

C. Organized Collective Action:

The basic people's congresses debated and approved organized collective action on the basis of the following observations:

1. Preparing studies and compiling specifications for the opportunities and positions in which organized collective action can be implemented.

2. Setting incentives for the group participating in organized collective work.

3. Presenting the results of organized collective work to the basic people's congresses with the goal of enriching them and regulating them by law.

4. Putting the system of organized collective work into effect in fields other than specialized labor.

D. Voluntary Rotational Action.

The basic people's congresses discussed and approved the idea of voluntary rotational work, while taking the following observations into account:

1. Conducting the implementation process in accordance with the service and production centers and in line with the competence of those who carry it out. The housing situation should be taken into consideration where possible.

2. Providing moral and material encouragement to those who carry it out.

3. Preparing studies and plans of action for those centers in which rotation is defined.

4. Confining manpower and its specializations in the centers targetted for rotation.

5. Using the mass media to familiarize people with the goals of voluntary labor.

6. Establishing a model for voluntary rotational work.

IV. The Productive Family.

The basic people's congresses discussed and adopted the practical measures in the program for the productive family, taking the following observations into account:

1. Making the necessary means available and drafting procedures to obtain them.

2. Giving priority to families with limited incomes, and offering material and moral encouragement to them.

3. Conducting a study of needs in accordance with conditions in each region.

4. Establishing training sessions to make the program a success while focusing on women's needs.

5. Taking the population density of each municipality into consideration.

6. Finding channels to receive production while linking the family to production.

7. Orienting the productive family to produce goods with locally available raw materials.

V. Scientific Research. The resolution:

A. The basic people's congresses discussed and adopted the program for scientific research, taking the following observations into consideration:

1. Creating an independent body that will supervise scientific research and be backed by the necessary competence.

2. Supporting this program with resources from the general treasury.

3. Inviting Arab emigration experts to contribute to the revival of science, with the goal of transferring technology and Arabizing it.

4. Offering material and moral incentives to scientific researchers.

5. Placing the priorities of the revolutionary program at the forefront of the program's objectives.

6. Working to open scientific research centers in various parts of the Great Jamahiriyah.

VI. The Program of Comprehensive Mobilization:

A. The basic people's congresses discussed and adopted the program of comprehensive mobilization, taking the following observations into account:

1. Highlighting the need for a detailed study of the projects it subsumes, while taking account of the observations of the basic people's congresses.

2. Working to make the resources needed to implement the program available, while reserving all means to achieve its objectives.

3. Monitoring the implementation of the resolutions of the basic people's congresses formulated in the 12th regular session of the General People's Congress.

B. The resolution: The basic people's congresses tracked the implementation of their 1986 resolutions, which were formulated at the 12th session of the General People's Congress. While expressing their satisfaction with what has been implemented, they placed special emphasis on the following points, which have not been accomplished:

1. Quickening the preparation of a law defining the powers of the people's committee.

2. Working to marshal the local resources of the municipalities by exploiting local potential and developing their production.

3. Speeding up the implementation of the new education structure.

4. Stressing the payment of salaries when due.

5. Working to provide medicine and medical equipment, while highlighting the need to operate the medical plan in practice and issue medical cards to the immigrant workforce.

6. Establishing a scientific plan for the implementation of the notion of mass sports. This will be done by organizing lectures and programs geared toward its success.

7. Sending thinkers from the Armed Forces to productive areas, while allocating graduates to positions that will allow them to work.

8. Taking interest in local raw materials, and building factories with this material.

9. Ensuring that the replies of the people's committees are clear and detailed, while pinpointing the problems those committees face when implementing the resolutions.

10. Pursuing the collection of the Jamahiriyah's debts from other countries.

11. Highlighting the need for coordination between the Libyan Central Bank and the appropriate people's committees by providing essential goods and raw materials on time.

12. Completing the projects included in the plan, especially those designed to boost productivity.

VII. Budgets: To pursue the implementation of the 1987 management budget.

The resolution: The basic people's congresses discussed the implementation of the 1987 management budget. They expressed their satisfaction with its implementation while highlighting the following points:

1. Paying wages on time and on the appropriate dates.

2. Transferring additional workers to production areas.

3. Ensuring the growth and development of material resources in the municipalities.

4. Highlighting the need to facilitate the minutes of the budget.

5. Continuing the collection of taxes and fees from all areas in support of the general treasury.

A. Article 2: Preparing the 1988 Management Budget.

Resolution: The basic people's congresses discussed the 1988 management budget, and made the following decisions:

To adopt the 1988 budget project, which has a cap of 1,243,500,000 Libyan dinars in line with the available possibilities. The congresses stress the following:

1. Emphasizing the need to pay wages on time.

2. Working to develop the material resources of municipalities.

3. Compelling companies and institutions to pay their dues to the general treasury.

4. Working to grant bonuses and promotions to those who deserve them.

5. Cutting and controlling spending as much as possible.

6. Forcing those in the private sector to pay the necessary taxes.

7. Avoiding any burdens on the management budget through new financial commitments. Overspending will not be authorized, and expenditures will be reduced and tightened as much as possible.

8. Highlighting the fact that the General People's Committee for the Treasury must collect resources for the budget on time.

9. Stressing the need to enforce Law No 12 of 1985 on tax collection.

10. Rejecting the suggestion that fees be charged for health care, education, and road use; Paragraph 3 in the draft budget memorandum is to be abrogated.

The follow-up of the Development Budget for 1987.

The Resolution:

The basic people's congresses followed up the implementation of the development plan for 1987 and made these observations:

1. Assigning priority to projects behind schedule, and to particular agricultural and industrial projects, as well as educational and health projects.

2. Reaffirming the need to encourage scientific research.

3. Highlighting the need to scrupulously explain all aspects of spending in all sections and to send the reports to the basic people's congresses.

4. Ensuring a just distribution of production projects, while taking account of population density and the location of raw materials.

5. Establishing additional production and service cooperatives and providing the means for their success.

6. Adopting the barter system with foreign companies in the implementation of development projects, while using the Jamahiriyah's debts to consolidate the development budget.

7. Promoting a fair distribution of projects among the municipalities, while taking population density and the location of raw materials into consideration.

8. Paying greater interest to vocational, technical, and art training to improve skill levels and production capabilities.

Drafting the development budget for 1988.

The masses of the basic people's congress examined the draft development budget for 1988 and made the following decisions:

Adopting the draft development budget, which totals roughly 1,355 billion dinars, while stressing the observations of the basic people's congresses on the implementation of the development budget, particularly:

a. Bolstering domestic firms;

b. Implementing important and vital projects of concern to the citizen, particularly those related to education, agriculture, and health, as well as centers for vocational training;

c. Completing those projects that are still behind schedule, especially those involving production;

d. Using the financial resources available with investment bodies and institutions so as to increase the resources to finance the development budget.

B. The Budgets:

The follow-up of the import budget for 1987.

The resolution:

The basic people's congresses tracked the import budget for 1987 and made the following observations:

1. Delaying the allocation of credits has not allowed us to meet society's important needs within a suitable time;

2. Vehicles and the required spare parts are not available;

3. There is an apparent shortage of imported clothes, requirements for employment, medical equipment, and durable goods;

4. The consumption booklet is not being followed. This, in turn, has led to the disappearance of goods and brokerage on a large scale;

5. No scientific or practical regulations have been drafted covering the distribution of goods and respect for prices;

6. We must import goods that are suitable in terms of quality and price, and that satisfy the tastes of the public.

7. Population density has not been taken into account in the distribution of goods.

C. The preparation of the import budget for 1988:

The basic people's congresses examined the draft proposals for the 1988 import budget, which was around 1,709,800,000 dinars in accordance with available means. The congresses adopted the proposals, while stressing the following observations made by the basic people's congresses:

1. Where possible, imports will come from friendly and fraternal countries, and through the barter system.

2. Assigning priority to essential commodities, especially milk and milk by-products, medicine, raw materials, industrial inputs, spare parts, and means of transport.

3. Taking account of population density when distributing goods. A strategic stock of essential goods is to be made available.

4. Highlighting the need for coordination between the Libyan Central Bank and the General People's Committees for Economy and Industry. Lines of credit are to be opened at appropriate times.

5. Taking account of reports from those bodies charged with controlling imports.

6. Increasing allocations for the handicapped and those suffering from diabetes.

7. Establishing a study program for the import process. The resolutions of the basic people's congresses in this area are to be followed strictly, as are the remarks of the people's congress concerning the monitoring of the implementation of the 1987 budget.

The 1988 Defense Budget and Allocations:

The basic people's congresses discussed and approved the defense budget and support allocations for 1988 within the limits of the sum proposed in the memorandum. They did so while taking the attached notes into account.

General Reports:

Report of companies belonging to the economic and trade sector. The General Establishment for Agricultural Machinery and Requirements.

Resolution: The basic people's congresses discussed the report of the General Establishment for Agricultural Machinery and Requirements and made the following remarks:

1. Removing the difficulties the establishment faces. It is to be supported and given the necessary facilities.

2. Opening branches of the establishment in all municipalities.

3. Compelling the establishment to open maintenance facilities, while focusing on the training and encouragement of national personnel.

4. Highlighting the need to pay all debts to the establishment that have come due.

5. Coordinating with agricultural congresses, and the staff of agricultural projects and the tractor factory when importing agricultural machinery and inputs.

6. Compelling the company to submit reports to the basic people's congresses on its activities and financial position.

Report of companies belonging to the economic and trade sector. The National Company for Cattle and Meat:

Resolution: The basic people's congresses discussed the report of the National Company for Cattle and Meat and expressed their satisfaction with the document while stressing the following:

Importing only live animals where possible while meeting veterinary standards.

Making cattle pens, cold storage facilities, and slaughterhouses available in the municipalities. Processing plants will also be opened.

Removing the difficulties facing the company and offering it support in the form of qualified and efficient national personnel.

Taking an interest in the health aspect of imported meat.

Submitting a report to the basic people's congresses on the company's activities and financial standing.

Reviewing the performance of the company's offices abroad to ensure that they are playing their role in accordance with society's guidelines.

Report on the Libyan Insurance Company:

Resolution: The basic people's congresses discussed the report of the Libyan Insurance Company and expressed their satisfaction with it. They did so while making the following remarks:

1. Forcing the company to carry out the proposals received from the General People's Committee for Economy and Foreign Trade.

2. Working to invest the company's funds in productive projects.

3. Surmounting the company's shortcomings in making the masses aware of the benefits of insurance.

4. Opening offices in the municipalities, which will guarantee that insurance services are easily accessible to all.

5. Submitting a detailed report on the firm's activities.

6. Restructuring the company in a way that guarantees the development of its programs, benefits from national expertise, and stresses the importance of vocational training in the insurance field.

7. Streamlining the procedure for compensating members of the public.

Report of hotel companies:

The basic people's congresses discussed the report of the hotel companies and expressed their satisfaction with it, while making the following comment:

Working to ensure that hotel prices are low enough for all.

The basic people's congresses discussed the reports of the national company for supply goods. They expressed their satisfaction with it while noting the following:

1. Overcoming the problems facing the company while providing subsidies at the proper time.

2. Forcing the firm to expand by setting up depots, increasing the volume of reserve supply goods, and taking interest in local activities. At the same time, we must focus on quality when purchasing, and take health conditions into account.

3. Compelling the general quarters to pay their dues to the company.

Report of the National Company for Agricultural Marketing:

Resolution: The basic people's congresses discussed the report of the national company for agricultural marketing. They emphasized the following resolutions:

1. Reorganizing the company in ways that will enable it to perform its duties and learn from past mistakes.

2. Encouraging farmers and the agricultural congress to market their goods directly, or through the available distribution channels.

3. Bringing those responsible for the company's failure to account. They will also be forced to pay off the dues of farmers, and to pay off their debts to the general quarters.

4. Compelling the company to contribute by exporting from our agricultural surplus. It must also contribute by marketing among the municipalities while financing the general regions.

5. Submitting periodic reports to the people's congresses on the company's activities and financial status, and abiding by the remarks of organizations charged with control.

6. Making use of refrigerators and other equipment to protect farm products.

Report of the National Company for Markets:

The basic people's congresses discussed the report of the National Company for Markets and stressed the following resolutions:

1. Directing interest toward and organizing the people's markets.

2. Passing judgment on those who fail to protect the company's general funds. All measures likely to recover public funds are to be taken, and offenders are to be punished.

3. Supporting the company by providing qualified experts who will manage the firm in a way that will achieve the goals for which it was founded. At the same time, it will trim excess manpower in the firm. Those individuals will have employment opportunities elsewhere once they have been properly trained.

4. Compelling the company to close its accounts and submit budgets annually.

5. Stressing the authority of the General People's Committee for Economy and Foreign Trade over the company and its branches.

6. Presenting annual reports on the company's activity and financial status to the basic people's congresses.

Report of the Libyan Central Bank:

The basic people's congresses have studied the report of the Libyan Central Bank, and have highlighted the following remarks:

1. Improving the standard of banking services, restoring the public's confidence in them so they will deal with those institutions, encouraging investment, and facilitating the withdrawal of money.

2. Supporting the banking sector, and opening offices in the municipalities.

3. Assigning priority to subsidies for essential supplies, spare parts, and equipment for general factories and cooperatives.

4. Working to recover Libyan Arab funds frozen abroad, and to avoid borrowing overseas.

5. Reducing the profit from housing loans.

6. Facilitating measures that promote the import balance.

7. Opening offices of the gold company in the municipalities, developing its services along with local gold processing, and training Libyan nationals in the art of gold processing with due attention to national taste.

Report of the development bank:

The basic people's congresses debated the report of the development bank and expressed their satisfaction with it. They made the following observations while affirming their previous resolutions:

1. Supporting and encouraging productive partnerships, which should be made more widespread. That is especially true of those which rely on locally available raw materials.

2. Supporting the bank by repaying its capital, which was defined by the law that brought it into being. Those who provided the capital must be committed to paying their installments.

3. Expanding the granting of loans to individuals and partnerships, following up the collection of those loans, and opening branches of the bank in the municipalities.

4. Tracking the granting of loans to ensure they are used as intended. Periodic reports are to be submitted on the bank's activity, including the loans it granted, with details about each individual municipality.

Report of the agricultural bank:

The basic people's congresses debated the report of the agricultural bank and expressed their satisfaction with it. They made the following observations:

1. Supporting the agricultural bank by providing the funds allocated to it. This will allow it to do its job and develop its services.

2. Granting loans to farmers and agricultural partnerships, and tracking the settlement of these loans.

3. Opening branches of the bank in the municipalities and committing those responsible to pay the installments to the farmers.

4. Providing loans for maintenance and for the construction of tanks and the drilling of wells.

III The Real Estate Savings and Investment Bank:

The report: The basic people's congresses debated the report of the real estate savings and investment bank and expressed their satisfaction with it. They affirmed their previous resolutions and made the following observations:

1. Supporting the bank and making those who provide the funds pay their installments.

2. Continuing to grant loans to citizens, especially in the areas of [word indistinct], and ensuring the collection of installments that come due.

V. The Libyan Arab Company for Foreign Investment:

The decision: The basic people's congresses examined the report of the Libyan Arab Company for Foreign Investment and expressed their satisfaction with it. They did so while stressing the following:

1. Concentrating the company's activities in the Arab world. When dealing with foreign countries priority should be given to African and friendly countries in accordance with their stances toward the Great Jamahiriyah.

2. Concentrating the company's activities on participation that ensures return on investments.

3. Consolidating the company with able and committed elements.

4. Compelling the company to provide reports of its activities and those of its subsidiaries, as well as its annual profits, to the basic people's congresses.

VI. Report on the Al-Jihad Fund:

The basic people's congresses examined a report on the Al-Jihad Fund. They expressed their satisfaction and stressed the following observations:

1. Highlighting the need to furnish a detailed report on the fund's activities and to report its budget and final accounts at the appropriate times.

2. Developing the fund's revenues and investing its money in productive projects.

3. Compelling the public treasury to pay the legal commitments to the fund in accordance with its schedule.

VII. Report on the Social Fund:

The resolution: The basic people's congresses examined the report of the Social Security Fund. They recorded their satisfaction and would like to make the following observations:

1. Compelling all public sectors to pay their commitments to the fund.

2. Reviewing Law No 13 of 1980 concerning social security and amending it to accord with the resolution of the General People's Congress to abolish the General People's Committee for Social Security and to enable the people's committees for social security at the municipal level to exercise the people's authority over the fund.

3. Paying pensions as scheduled.

4. Stressing the suggestions and recommendations to [word indistinct] the fund.

5. Investing the fund's money in productive projects and distributing such investments throughout the Great Jamahiriyah in accordance with available means.

6. Opening branches for the fund in the municipalities and giving the fund the right to appoint the necessary staff.

7. Paying closer attention to children's nurseries and old people's homes and improving the standard of services accorded to them. Providing greater care to the disabled, as well as improved homes, treatment, and training. In addition, they are to be given suitable jobs.

8. Taking account of the observation made in this area by the supervisory organizations.

9. Formulating detailed reports on the fund's activities and presenting them to the basic people's congresses.

The Socialist Company for Ports:

The resolution: The basic people's congresses examined the report of the Socialist Company for Ports. They expressed satisfaction and stressed the following observations:

Consolidating the company with able and capable staff and surmounting the difficulties facing it.

Paying attention to training and to the fostering of technical aptitude, and introducing scientific mechanisms into the company's (?mobilization) and administrative stability.

Working for the completion of the second phase of the construction of the maritime terminals of Tripoli and Banghazi. Greater attention should also be paid to the rest of the Jamahiriyah's ports.

Providing periodic reports on various aspects of the company's activities and financial position.

The General Public Company for Communications:

The masses of the basic people's congresses examined the report of the General Public Company for Communications. They stressed the following observations:

Improving postal service. Training and compliance with qualification standards also merit attention.

Following up the organization of collecting postal and telephone charges, and working for repayment of debts due to the company from public quarters.

3. Issuing a general telephone directory for the Great Jamahiriyah.

4. Making women take an interest in postal work and, where possible, directing men to production positions.

5. Obliging the company to balance its accounts and present its budgets at the appointed times.

6. Presenting detailed annual reports on the company's activities to the basic people's congresses.

7. Returning personnel qualified in telecommunications to the company.

The Libyan Arab Airlines Company:

Resolution: The basic people's congresses debated the report of the Libyan Arab Airlines Company and stressed the following resolutions:

1. Obliging the company to organize the timetables of domestic and foreign flights, which must not be disrupted. The safety of passengers' property must be guaranteed, and there must be a sense of responsibility for them.

2. Monitoring workers in the company's offices abroad, which should be provided with good and capable people in accordance with the standard of its service. This will also reflect the modern image of the Great Jamahiriyah.

3. Supporting the company so its level of skill increases. Its air fleet must also grow, and the people must be allowed to travel on international airlines when necessary.

4. Striving to close its accounts and to present those accounts at the appointed times. Public parties must also be obliged to settle any outstanding debts to the company.

5. Preparing a report on the activity of the company and presenting it to the basic people's congresses annually.

6. Organizing the relationship between the mechanisms that operate at airports and in the company.

The General National Company for Maritime Transport:

The basic people's congresses debated the report of the General National Company for Maritime Transport. They expressed their satisfaction and stressed the following observations:

Presenting annual accounts of the company and submitting them to the basic people's congresses.

Noting that the company is not exempt from stamp duty for the great man-made river.

Opening offices for tickets and reservations, promoting the services of the company, and supporting it with men and materiel. Due attention should be paid to the training of national personnel.

4. Surmounting the difficulties facing the company and obliging the public sector to settle outstanding debts to the company.

5. Forcing national companies to use the vessels of the Maritime Transport Company.

6. The company should use Arabic in its transactions at home and abroad.

7. Increasing the number of vessels in the maritime fleet and acquiring additional vessels with specialized cargo uses.

Report on strategic industrial projects:

1. the iron and steel complex;

2. the chemical complex in Abu Kammash;

3. the aluminum complex in Zuwarah;

4. the cement and construction materials plants project;

5. the steel foundry and metal sheeting.

The basic people's congresses discussed a number of reports dealing with the strategic industrial projects and expressed their satisfaction with the contents. They stressed the following observations:

1. Supporting the projects, removing obstacles, speeding up the completion of the remaining stages, and completing the remaining processing factories that use their products.

2. Concentrating on the training of national workers to operate these projects. Any shortages can be filled from fraternal and friendly countries.

3. Preparing detailed reports on the projects, clarifying the stages of implementation and production, and submitting them to the basic people's congresses.

4. Stressing the importance of administrative stability in manufacturing projects.

5. Exempting projects from taxes and customs duties, and granting them priority in banking procedures.

6. Laying down principles and regulations that guarantee financial, administrative, and technical control. The scientific approach is to be adopted as a method for their creation and administration.

7. Taking note of the remarks made by supervisory bodies.

8. Working for the distribution of strategic industries throughout the Jamahiriyah, caring for them, and supporting them.

9. Following the method of barter in dealing with fraternal and friendly countries.

Report of the National Oil Establishment:

The resolution: The basic people's congresses discussed the report of the National Oil Establishment and expressed their satisfaction. While it confirms their previous resolutions, they made the following observations:

1. Tracking prospecting operations and geological surveys throughout the Great Jamahiriyah.

2. Speeding up the completion of the Libyanization of the oil sector and stressing training programs.

3. Compelling the establishment to absorb the graduates of oil institutions.

4. Paying attention to the industrial security program and the further development of the oil and gas industry.

5. Preparing a detailed report on the activities of the National Oil Establishment, which will be submitted to the basic people's congresses.

Report of the General Electricity Company:

The basic people's congresses discussed the report of the General Electricity Company and stressed the following:

1. Drawing up training programs to qualify more Libyans in the administration of plants and grids.

2. Working for the regular collection of electricity charges that do not burden the public.

3. Paying attention to the maintenance of plants and electricity grids, and providing spare parts to guarantee the supply of electricity.

4. Maintaining current tariffs and prices for electricity.

5. Obliging public bodies to pay their debts to the company.

Report of the General Authority for Agricultural Produce:

The basic people's congresses discussed the report by the General Authority for Agricultural Produce and stressed the following:

1. Supporting strategic agricultural projects, removing obstacles, and expanding the creation of agricultural partnerships.

2. Supporting national personnel in the agricultural industry.

3. Giving precedence to agricultural projects, taking a slow approach to those projects whose economic and social viability have not been confirmed, and stressing the need to conduct scientific studies before beginning the projects.

4. Paying attention to subterranean water, constructing more dams and cisterns, and exploiting seawater and solar energy.

5. Paying attention to agricultural research centers, encouraging researchers morally and materially, and removing obstacles.

6. Directing the authority to provide detailed reports on all its activities.

7. Encouraging municipalities to establish agricultural projects and show greater interest in programs involving poultry, camels, and cereals.

8. Encouraging the municipalities to establish agricultural projects for self-sufficiency and export.

Report of the People's Committee for the Great Man-Made River:

The resolution: The basic people's congresses were briefed on the report by the People's Committee for the Great Man-Made River and stressed the following observation:

1. Supporting the project, using existing skills to complete the first stage on time, and speeding up the preparation of agricultural land to exploit the project's water.

2. Working to implement the second phase of the project.

3. Paying attention to geological studies and encouraging national personnel to confirm their role in the implementation and (?continuation) of the project.

4. Abiding by the remarks of supervisory bodies.

IV. General Reports:

1. Reports of Supervisory Bodies:

Report of the Audit Bureau:

The basic people's congresses discussed the report of the Audit Bureau and stressed the following:

1. Subjecting all bodies, companies, and general establishments to the bureau's supervision to safeguard public funds. The required measures must also be adopted covering infractions and negligence in relation to public money.

2. Supplying the people's congresses with detailed reports on offenses, abuses, and measures taken to deal with them.

3. Supporting the bureau with capable staff, who will accomplish those goals the bureau was set up to meet. [passage indistinct]

4. Opening bureau branches in all municipalities.

5. Obliging all general quarters to submit their final accounts and close their budgets annually in accordance with the financial law of the state.

6. Integrating all mechanisms charged with control.

Report of the Central Apparatus for Administrative Control:

The people's congresses studied the report of the Central Apparatus for Administrative Control, and stressed the following:

1. Charging the apparatus to study the causes of the negative factors mentioned in the report and to propose scientific solutions to them.

2. Obliging the general quarters to take account of remarks made by the apparatus; enforcing the laws on infractions.

3. Intensifying administrative control on a permanent basis throughout the year. This is to be done through administrative positions, and by supporting the apparatus with the appropriate personnel.

4. Working to open offices in all municipalities.

5. Integrating the apparatus with other organizations charged with control.

Report of the People's Committee for the Follow-Up People's Committee for the Follow-Up People's Apparatus. They expressed satisfaction with its contents and approved the following:

1. Bringing to account those who have been negligent toward projects that have not met productivity targets.

2. Opening branches of the apparatus in the municipalities, and supporting it with funds and technical personnel.

3. Assigning priority to strategic and productive projects in the plan, and preparing the necessary reports on obstacles and projects that have been halted.

4. Revising development projects in remote municipalities that have not been completed with a view to doing so.

5. Preventing duplication between control organizations through integration.

V. General Issues:

1. Resolution: The General People's Congress has questioned its Secretariat in line with remarks made by the basic people's congresses. It has decided to hold the Secretariat responsible for honoring the comments to avoid the negligence noted by the congresses.

The General People's Congress has questioned the General People's Committee and the general organizations in accordance with the resolutions of the basic people's congresses and the remarks of the control apparatus. It has expressed its satisfaction with what has been done.

The General People's Congress affirmed that the General People's Committee and all the people's committees must adopt collective action as the method to execute the resolutions of the basic people's congresses.

In addition, it stressed the need for the people's committees to monitor the violations noted by the control forces and to punish those responsible.

With a view to reaffirming and entrenching people's power, making the mass character of the municipalities a reality, and achieving full control by the people's congresses and committees in municipalities over all companies and establishments and projects therein, the General People's Congress obliges the General People's Committees and authorities under them to ensure that coordination exists with the people's committees in the municipalities.

The General People's Congress also emphasizes:

a. Highlighting the need to review the jurisdiction of the people's committees.

b. Entrenching the collective approach by the General People's Committees.

c. Giving priority to remarks made by people's congresses concerning society's redirection toward production.

d. The General People's Committee: A report will be presented on the results of its work concerning remarks made to it at the next session of the people's congresses.

e. Obliging all the people's committees and public organs, companies, and establishments to be committed to the general financial law of the state, and to close their final accounts.

2. Recognizing the favors done by martyrs:

The basic people's congresses discussed and adopted the memorandum concerning the favors done by martyrs, and they emphasize the following remarks:

1. Recognizing the favors done by POW's and MIA's.

2. Defining a martyr as anyone killed while in national or pan-Arab service, military or civilian. Anyone permanently disabled in combat is also defined as a martyr and enjoys that status.

3. Working out material and moral awards for martyrs, and giving them eternal life with memorials in every city of the Great Jamahiriyah.

4. Setting up an institution that will deal with care for families of martyrs and those disabled in combat.

5. Giving priority in public service to the children of martyrs and exempting them from interest on loans and taxes. They will also be given priority in entering the schools of their choice.

6. Treating the families of POW's and MIA's in a manner identical to the families of martyrs.

7. To raise the proposed allowance for martyrs.

VI. The statutes.

1. The draft bill concerning organization of the economic activity of individuals.

During their ordinary session for 1987-88, the basic people's congresses debated a draft law on the organization of the economic activity of individuals. They also decided to issue it in accordance with the following observations:

1. Asserting the right of citizens in the jamahiri society to choose a job that suits them without exploiting others.

2. Applying the dictum of the second chapter of the Green Book.

3. Not holding a public post while engaging in private activity.

4. Acting as an individual retailer for those who are disabled, on pension, or over the age of 45.

5. Replacing the word merchant wherever it appears in the sense of a retailer.

The Draft Bill for the People's Court:

The basic people's congresses debated the question of the People's Court in their third ordinary session in 1987. They decided to issue the draft bill with their observations.

The Draft Bill for the Socialist Real Estate Register:

The basic people's congresses debated the drafting of a bill for the socialist real estate register. The draft was approved along with the observations made by the basic people's congresses. This was done in a way that does not violate the revolutionary laws issued by the basic people's congresses on the subject...

[Unidentified speaker, interrupting] There is one point in the resolution of the basic people's congresses and the memorandum that concerns the privileges of the martyrs. They approved it and affirmed the following observations:

Upholding the privileges of martyrs and applying them to those who are listed as POW's or MIA's. Everyone who gave his life in the line of national or pan-Arab duty is considered a martyr. This applies to soldiers and civilians alike. Those who were permanently disabled in war will enjoy the same benefits.

[First speaker resumes] A draft bill for amending the law on civil status:

The basic people's congresses debated the law on amending civil status and decided to promulgate it. They also decided to amend the first paragraph of Article 46 as follows:

Any correction or change to the conditions of civil status that concerns the date of birth. Those born before 1960 are exempt.

A draft bill for amending the law on national service.

The basic people's congresses debated the memorandum submitted in connection with applying the law for national service to men and women who are, for health reasons, unable to do their military service. They decided to amend the law on national service so women may serve in the military on a voluntary basis. Housewives are excluded from the regulations on national service.

VII. Foreign Policy:

The results of the visit of the brother leader to Algeria and the results of the unionist action with that country.

The resolution: The basic people's congresses reviewed the results of the visit of the brother leader to Algeria and the contacts and meetings between the two countries as part of the policy of unionist action. They expressed their full satisfaction and support for all that has been achieved and affirm the following:

1. Highlighting the significance of what was mentioned in the speech of the brother leader at the Algerian National Assembly.

2. Intensifying meetings between the two countries. Work will also be done to continue them with the goal of speeding the emergence of a unionist formula, be it at the bilateral or Arab Maghreb level.

3. Emphasizing the importance of bilateral meetings at all levels in the two countries and driving all popular groups toward implementing the programs under agreement.

4. Any unionist formula concluded bilaterally or at the level of the Arab Maghreb must be open for other Arab countries to join. After all, any formula that does not include a comprehensive form of unity should be examined and treated as a step on the road to comprehensive Arab unity.

5. Endeavoring to invite other Arab states to join any unionist formula that might be achieved.

6. Any unionist Arab action may be the target of imperialist plots. The imperialists will do their best to prevent its emergence or to attack it should it come to pass. Thus, we must oppose these plots decisively and stand up in the face of those who hatched the conspiracies.

7. Asking the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison to monitor the situation constantly and to present a report on the subject to the basic people's congresses.

II. The Arab Union project and the follow-up of unionist steps between the Jamahiriyah and sisterly countries:

The General People's Congresses have studied the project of the Arab Union and noted that it takes into account the fundamentals of the Arab reality, despite the fact that it does not match the Jamahiriyah's ambitions of comprehensive mass unity. The congresses have adopted this project, while taking in consideration the following:

1. Calling on Arab states, whose ruling parties approved the Arab Union project, to join this project.

2. Submitting the project to the Arab League to be adopted throughout the Arab world.

3. Contacting people's organizations and revolutionary forces in order to open dialogue with them on the project and to facilitate its implementation.

4. Entrusting the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison to intensify contacts with Arab states and pan-Arab and international people's organizations in order to bring this project to realization.

III. Report of the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison and its report on people's and friendship bureaus:

The basic people's congresses have reviewed the report of the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison and its report on people's and friendship bureaus, and while they voice their satisfaction they would like to stress the following:

1. Needing active confrontation against imperialism, Zionism, and racism through obstructing Zionist infiltration, especially in the Arab world and Africa.

The congresses emphasize that the two racist regimes in occupied Palestine and South Africa constitute a solidarity danger to the African and Arab existence, and that Arab-African solidarity should make these two regimes a priority target.

The solid cooperation between the Zionists in Palestine and the racists in South Africa is evidence of their identical nature.

2. Supporting world liberation movements.

3. Establishing economic relations between the Jamahiriyah and other countries, in accordance with the political stands of those countries with regard to the causes of the Arab nation—primarily the Palestinian cause, their attitude to the repeated barbaric imperialist aggression against the Great Jamahiriyah, and the apartheid regime in South africa.

4. Directing interest in the people's bureaus and the friendship bureaus; giving them material and human support with qualified revolutionary elements; stressing the need to rationalize currency exchange; supervising financial control according to current legislation; and ensuring that the number of staff is compatible with the type of work.

5. Ensuring that the people's bureaus take an interest in Arabs abroad, and work toward securing the release of Arab Libyan prisoners abroad.

6. Asking Britain, Germany and Turkey for compensation for war damages incurred by Libya; instructing the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison to submit these matters to the countries in question; and working seriously to obtain our compensation so that results can be submitted during the next session.

The congresses also decided to form people's delegations to contact those countries in order to clarify our compensation rights and to meet with people's organizations, mass media apparatuses, and the responsible bodies in those countries.

7. Continuing the implementation of incompleted actions.

8. Ordering the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison to prepared detailed reports.

IV. To Discuss the Imperialist Military Concentration in the Arab Gulf and the Attitude Toward the Iraq-Iran War:

Resolution: The General People's Congresses have reviewed the agenda submitted on the Iraq-Iran war and the military concentration in the Arab Gulf. While the people's congresses stress their conviction about the danger of what is taking place in the Arab Gulf, which is represented by the presence of foreign fleets—this danger threatens the Arab nation—the congresses are aware that the continuation of this war represents a serious squandering of human and material resources of two Muslim countries.

Also, they are aware that this provides a service for imperialist and Zionist goals in the regions to tighten their control.

This is a fact that should be confronted by all means and should be strongly condemned. Stemming from this, the basic people's congress approve:

1. Supporting the brother leader's endeavors to end the Iraq-Iran war.

2. Condemning the foreign military presence in the Arab Gulf region.

3. Denouncing every regime that accepts the foreign military presence in the region or any regime that provides it with facilities.

4. Entrusting the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison with expanding the scope of its political moves on the Arab, Islamic, and international level to convince both warring parties to end the war.

5. Calling on the UN Security Council to work seriously toward terminating the imperialist military presence in the Arab Gulf.

V. Supporting the Palestinain Masses:

Resolution: The basic people's congresses emphasize their principled stand in support of the Palestinian Arab masses stemming from the belief in the pan-Arab responsibility and out of awareness of the nature of the Arab-Zionist conflict, in that it is a conflict over existence and not a conflict over borders.

Stemming from the belief of the basic people's congress in the principle of the armed struggle is the only way toward liberation, and in recognition of the lessons learned from the revolution of stones, which represent a clear-cut and strong rejection of the episode of capitulatory solutions which was initiated with the visit of treason and the signature of the Stable David treaties—the continuation of attempts which are trying to force the Arabs to negotiate with the Zionist occupation forces who want to give legitimacy to their occupation of Palestine and other Arab occupied land—and while noting in the revolution of stones the right and historic reply to the Amman resolutions with regard to the Palestinian cause; and that the Arabs should be aware and should understand that the Palestinian masses are not facing death every day for the sake of an international peace conference but for the sake of liberating their land, for ending the occupation, killing, and destitution they have suffered;

The basic people's congresses, while approving the agenda regarding providing support for Palestinian factions and masses, the Lebanese national movement, and Syria, stress the following:

1. Rejecting all capitulationist solutions on the basis that the Arab-Zionist conflict is in essence a conflict over existence, not borders.

2. Working for the unification of the Palestinian resistance groups.

3. Needing to open all Arab borders before the Palestinian armed struggle.

4. Creating a Palestinian university.

The resolution: Abiding by the responsibilities of the pan-Arab leadership of the great September revolution in the escalation of the pan-Arab struggle for the liberation of Palestine, and out of awareness of the importance of preserving the Palestinian Arab identity of the Arab generation in occupied Palestine, the masses of the basic people's congresses have studied the dimensions of the call included in the brother leader's guiding speech given at the Sidi Khalifah Basic People's Conference for the establishment of a university for the Palestinians both inside or outside occupied Palestine, and decided the following:

1. Approving the proposal to establish an integrated Palestinian university.

2. Entrusting the competent people's committees to create a Palestinian university inside occupied Palestine, if possible, and in the Great Jamahiriyah, if possible.

3. Calling on the Arab countries and the Arab League to contribute to the creation of this Palestinian university on the basis that the proposal is a pan-Arab idea.

The relationship between the great Jamahiriyah and the states which have restored their relations with the Egyptian regime:

The resolution: The basic people's congresses discussed the memorandum submitted about the relationship between the Great Jamahiriyah and the states which have restored their relations with the Egyptian regime.

While they confirm their firm, principled attitude concerning the need for isolating the Egyptian regime both politically and economically, in view of the grave harm caused to the supreme pan-Arab cause and its open exercise of treason with its attachment to the Camp David accords, which have opened the doors for the Zionist enemy to toy with and pick quarrels with the Arab nation, and the Egyptian regime's lead in the march of capitulation—which constitutes an historic crime against the Arab nation, a betrayal of its history of struggle, a violation of all Arab charters, first and foremost the joint Arab Defense Treaty, in denial of the Arab consensus consecrated by the Baghdad summit as an expression of the one Arab will—we, while realizing the dangers of slipping toward restoration by some Arab states of their relations with the Egyptian regime, and the danger represented in the Zionist penetration of the Arab nation and its alliance with the forces of world imperialism, decided the following:

1. The Jamahiriyah's adherence to the Baghdad summit resolutions.

2. Condemning the Amman summit and not recognizing its resolutions.

3. Denouncing Arab regimes which have restored diplomatic relations with the Egyptian regime. The People's Foreign Liaison Bureau is asked to contact the Arab countries which have restored their relations with the Egyptian regime in order to find out their motives.

Relations with any of them will be reviewed if it is established that the motives were not to extricate the Egyptian regime from its links with the Zionist entity, its recognition and the normalization of relations with it.

4. Urging the progressive Arab regimes to adopt similar measures.

5. Continuing support for the revolutionary forces in Egypt and the rest of the Arab homeland, rallying to them, and inciting the masses to halt the treason and capitulation and to explode a popular revolution.

6. Calling on the Arab League to discuss the matter on the basis that it is a violation of the charter of the Arab League and the charter of joint Arab defense.

7. Entrusting the People's Foreign Liaison Bureau and all the means of popular action to play an active role in explaining the real dangers of this measure, and urging these states to reconsider their attitudes. A detailed report on this will be submitted next year.

VII. The Relationship Between the Great Jamahiriyah and the Fraternal Tunisian Republic in Light of the New Changes.

The resolution: The Jamahiriyah, while saluting the Arab people in sisterly Tunisia and blessing its new era which has opened up new scope for the relationship between the Arab people in the Jamahiriyah and in Tunisia and has removed a basic obstacle to contacts and to creating suitable conditions for a return to the normal conditions as a step toward the Arab people's desired objective of achieving comprehensive unity, and while saluting the efforts exerted to establish normal relations between the two countries, especially the meetings between the brother leader and the Tunisian president in Tunis and in Saqiyat Sidi Yusuf decides:

1. Calling on sisterly Tunisia to unite with the Jamahiriyah as a step toward comprehensive Arab unity and implementing the historic Djerba declaration.

2. Working for building the economic integration between the Jamahiriyah and Tunisia on firm bases which ensure the continuation of relations including the setting up of the bartering system.

3. Organizing the movement of the citizens between the two countries in a way that is in harmony with the fact of our pan-Arab unity.

4. Inviting Tunisia to reexamine its decision to restore relations with the Egyptian regime.

5. Asking the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison to follow up the development of relations with Tunisia.

Reexamining the relations between the Great Jamahiriyah and other states in light of their attitude toward the imperialist aggression against the Jamahiriyah:

The resolution: The basic people's congresses debated the issue of reappraising the relations between the Great Jamahiriyah and other states in light of their stand toward the imperialist aggression against the south of the Jamahiriyah. They decided the following:

1. Appraising cooperative relations between the Jamahiriyah and other states in accordance with their stand toward the imperialist aggression against the south of the Jamahiriyah.

2. Appreciating the stands of the fraternal and friendly states condemning the aggression against the Jamahiriyah.

3. Condemning interference in the affairs of the African continent and stressing the fact that solving African problems should be within the OAU framework.

4. Asking the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison to intensify efforts to explain the dimensions of the aggression and its colonialist aims, to work for explaining the Jamahiriyah's attitudes to countries that did not condemn the aggression, and to affirm the Jamahiriyah's resolve to not squander even an inch of Libyan Arab soil.

Practical measures adopted concerning Italy's compensation to the Great Jamahiriyah for war damage.

The basic people's congresses perused the practical measures taken concerning Italian compensation to the Jamahiriyah for the damage caused by the invasion, colonialism, and war and while affirming their previous resolutions in this connection and the need to implement them as a basis for developing bilateral relations and cooperation and while affirming the resolution of the international community as expressed at the UN General Assembly as a decisive proof of the right of the Great Jamahiriyah to receive compensation for the war damage, decide the following:

1. Urging Italy to speed up acceptance of settling this matter; to reach agreement concerning it; and to end Italian procrastination.

2. Applying various pressures on Italy and using various peaceful means, including raising the issue in a court of law.

3. Asking Italy to clarify the fate of the Libyan Arabs who were taken away during its invasion and colonization of Libya.

4. Asking the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison to earnestly work and to seriously follow up the issue in order to adopt a specific stand toward Italy; to follow up the matter in international forums in a way that makes it possible to bring about the payment of the compensation; and to submit a report concerning this in the coming year so that the fate of relations with Italy can be determined.

Report on the steps that have been taken to demand that the United States compensate Libya for the losses resulting from its barbaric aggression on the Great Jamahiriyah:

The basic people's congresses reviewed the report submitted with regard to the steps that have been taken to demand that the United States should compensate Libya for the losses resulting from its barbaric aggression on the Great Jamahiriyah.

The Jamahiriyah, while recalling the resolutions and recommendations issued by the regional and international organizations, particularly the UN General Assembly Resolutions No 41/38 for 1986 which condemned the failed barbaric U.S.-NATO aggression on the people of the Great Jamahiriyah, and reaffirmed Libya's right to compensation, and while reaffirming to the international community its right to justice against those who carried out the aggression and contributed to it or facilitated it, has decided the following:

1. Insisting on its right to seek urgent and immediate compensation for the losses resulting from the aggression and to ask the UN Secretary General to implement the organization's resolution.

2. Calling on the fraternal and friendly states to stand by the Jamahiriyah so it can realize its justified demand by obtaining compensation and calling on these fraternal and friendly states to support this justified demand.

3. The Jamahiriyah is determined and resolved to continue to expose the U.S. terroristic plans, and to incite and instigate peoples of other countries to resist and oppose U.S. bases located on territories of other states.

4. The Jamahiriyah stresses the necessity of removing the imperialist military presence from the Mediterranean and to cooperate with the gopvernments and peoples in the region to work for making the Mediterranean a sea of peace and cooperation.

5. To charge the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison with concentrating the efforts in the various circles to underline and explain our legitimate right to compensation and to follow-up the necessary political and legal procedures to obtain such compensation.

The consolidation and strengthening of relations with the progressive states—the socialist camp and the progressive African states:

Out of its belief in the principle of collective struggle as a necessary and effective means for confronting the collective danger being led by world imperialism and its puppets Zionism and racism, and proceeding from the common political denominators linking the Jamahiriyah with the progressive states in Africa and the socialist camp in an aim to create practical and clear relations which are apt to consolidate the relationship between the progressive forces, the Great Jamahiriyah has decided to consolidate and strengthen relations with the progressive states—the socialist camp and the progressive African states—and reaffirms the following:

1. The consolidation of cooperative ties is linked to the extent of the support given to the issues of the Arab nation, at the forefront of which is the issue of Palestine. We do not accept that the issue should be harmed or compromised in any way. To inject the Zionist entity with people by facilitating migration to it is a matter that should be understood, dealt with, and prevented.

2. To give priority in the conclusion of agreements to the sociaist camp and the progressive African states and to increase the volume of economic and political and media cooperation with them, on the condition that this cooperation should depend on the mutual interests and equality among the states.

3. To deepen the political dialogue with the African states to resist the Zionist-Imperialist infiltration into Africa, and to incite the progressive African states to make efforts together with the African states that adopt a hostile attitude toward the progressive states in order to make them change this attitude.

Attitude Toward an International Conference on Peace in the Middle East:

Resolution: The Great Jamahiriyah believes in the armed struggle as the only solution for the liberation of Palestine from Zionist occupation.

While realizing the international tricks that aim at imposing the capitulationist solutions on the Arab nation and perpetuating its domination over the Arab region by consolidating the presence of the Zionist entity in occupied Palestine;

While being aware of the distant dangers resulting from the call for convening an international conference on peace in the Middle East as a ploy aimed at sowing differences and division within the Arab nation in order to deal with Arab states one by one to impose solutions on them which destroys the high pan-Arab interest and sacrifices the Palestinian Arab people;

While fully realizing that the convening of an international peace conference contradicts the nature of the Arab-Zionist struggle since it is a struggle for survival and not a border conflict and contravenes international law which laid down the idea of convening conferences to settle differences among equal states which depend on its existence and stability and perpetuation on international legitimacy—a matter which the Zionist entity lacks—the entity whose nature of existence was determined by the international community as a racist movement, through a resolution passed by the United Nations, as well as the fact that the international conference contradicts Arab unanimity which was established by the Khartoum summit conference which declared that there should be no peace with, no recognition of, and no negotiations with the Zionist entity;

While the correctness of the attitude and soundness of the analysis of the Jamahiriyah have been proven by the weakness and the increase of division of the Arab nation resulting from the peace march and by the fact that this march has provided the Zionist enemy with opportunities to disturb the peace and persecute the Palestinian Arab people and enabled the Zionist enemy to hatch more conspiracies against the Arab nation with the aim of spreading Zionist domination over the Arab nation's resources and wealth;

While saluting the revolution of stones that is yielding inspiring lessons that have proved that the resistance is the sound path for achieving the legitimate rights and that the lessons have ridiculed those who are trying to falsify the will of the Palestinian Arab people by installing themselves as their representatives;

And while reaffirming the peoples' right to self-determination as a basis for world peace, the Great Jamahiriyah decides to reject the convening of the so-called international conference on peace in the Middle East and stresses the following:

1. Supporting the Palestinian Arab people materially and morally and working for the unification of its detachments along the path of armed struggle.

2. Stopping the support given to the states and Palestinian detachments and organizations that will participate in the international conference.

3. Striking alliance with the popular masses and the progressive and Arab opposition in order to prevent the convening of such a conference.

4. Charging the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison with the task of contacting the socialist states to persuade them to reject the so-called international peace conference.

The Treaty of Brotherhood and Concord:

Out of their belief in comprehensive Arab unity and taking into consideration the circumstances that the Arab nation is passing through and the state of division that the nation is experiencing—a matter making it imperative to seize any opportunity that may appear to take unionist steps leading to the aim we aspire for—the masses of the basic people's congress resolve:

1. To join the Treaty of Brotherhood and Concord between Algeria, Tunisia, and Mauritania, on the condition that the borders that were drawn up by colonialism to tear up the Arab homeland from the Atlantic ocean to the Arabian Gulf should not be recognized.

2. To amend the treaty and to develop it in such a way it will lead to the establishment of unity.

3. To open the door to all Arab states to join the treaty and to invite them to do so.

XIV. Ratification of Agreements and Treaties Concluded Between the Jamahiriyah and the Other States:

Resolution: The basic people's congresses recognized the agreements and treaties concluded with the other states and approved their ratification. The basic people's congresses stress the following:

1. Stressing the worthiness of the economic returns from the agreements and treaties that have been concluded, paying attention to the scientific and training aspects, and giving priority to technical expertise and manpower from the Arab homeland.

2. The Foreign Investment Company should represent the Jamahiriyah in financing the companies that are jointly established with other countries, and to benefit from such companies in the qualification and training of Libyan Arab elements.

Organizational matters:

Resolution: The basic people's congresses have decided that the congresses should hold two ordinary sessions every year, with the right to hold emergency and extraordinary sessions whenever necessary.

IX. General Resolutions:

1. The General People's Congress has decided to form a Secretariat of the General People's Congress as follows:

Brother Dr Muftah al-Ustah 'Umar, Secretary of the [General People's] Congress. [applause]

Brother Ibrahim Abu Khizam, assistant secretary [of the General People's Congress] [applause]

Brother 'Umar Ishkal, secretary for People's Congresses affairs. [applause]

Brother Sulayman Sasi Al-Shuhumi, secretary for People's Committees affairs. [applause]

Brother Bashir Huwayj Huwaydi, secretary for Professional Congresses affairs. [applause]

2. The General People's Congress has decided to form the General People's Committee as follows:

Brother 'Umar Mustava al-Muntasir, secretary of the General People's Committee. [applause]

Brother Eng Jadallah 'Azzuz al-Talhi, secretary of the People's Committee of the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison. [applause]

Brother Fawzi al-Shakshuki, secretary of the General People's Committee for Public service. [applause]

Brother Eng Mubarak al-Shamikh, secretary of the General People's Committee for Communications and Maritime Transport. [applause]

Brother Ahmad Ibrahim, secretary of the General People's Committee for Education and Scientific Research. [applause]

Brother Dr Farhat Sharnanah, secretary of the General People's Committee for Economy and Foreign Trade. [applause]

Brother Dr Muhammad Lutfi Farhat, secretary of the General People's Committee for Planning. [applause]

Brother Dr Mustafa Muhammad al-Zaydi, secretary of the General People's Committee for Health. [applause]

Brother Dr Fathi Ahmad Ibn Shatwan, secretary of the General People's Committee for Industry. [applause]

Brother Muhammad al-Madani al-Bukhari, secretary of the General People's Committee for treasury. [applause]

Brother Dr Rajab Miftah Abu Dabbus, secretary of the General People's Committee for Information and Culture. [applause]

Brother Miftah Muhammad Ku'aybah, secretary of the General People's Committee for Marine Wealth. [applause]

[Tripoli JANA in English at 1825 GMT on 10 March in a report on the composition of the General People's Committee notes the following variation:

...Muhammad al-Madani al-Bukhari, the secretary of the General People's Committee for Information and Culture.

Miftah Muhammad Ku'aybah, secretary of the General People's Committee for Marine Wealth.... changing the post occupied by Al-Bukhari and omitting mention of Rajab Miftah Abu Dabbus]

Brother Ma'tuq Muhammad Ma'Tuq, secretary of the General People's Committee for Vocational Training. [applause]

Brother 'Ali al-Shairi, secretary of the General People's Committee for Mass Mobilization and Revolutionary Guidance. [applause and cheers]

The General People's Congress has decided to charge Brother Muhammad Zarruq Rajab with the post of governor of the Libyan Central Bank. [applause]

It has also decided to charge Brother Salim Mas'ud Jawayli with the post of deputy governor of the Libyan Central Bank. [applause]

The General People's Congress has decided to amalgamate the control apparatuses in one people's organization as follows:

The Audit Bureau, the Central Apparatus for Administrative Control, the People's Apparatus for Follow-Up, and the apparatus for Public Works will be amalgamated into one body to be called the People's Apparatus for Follow-Up. It will be attached to the General People's Congress.

The People's Apparatus for Follow-Up will be administered by a people's committee elected by the General People's Congress. The jurisdictions of the amalgamated apparatuses shall rest with the People's Apparatus for Follow-up, while the jurisdictions of the head of the Audit Bureau and of the General Controller shall rest with the People's Committee of the People's Apparatus for Follow-up.

The People's Committee of the People's Apparatus for Follow-up shall consist of:

Brother Ammar Lutayif, secretary of the committee. [applause]

Brother Rajab al-Misallati, member. [applause]

Brother Engineer Muhammad 'Ubayd al-Shukri, member. [applause]

Brother 'Abd al-Salam al-Tumi, member. [applause]

The people's committee of the apparatus shall prepare a draft law for the People's Apparatus for Follow-up, which is to be submitted to the basic people's congresses.

Fifth: Decision of the General People's Congress regarding the formation of the People's court:

Brother 'Abd al-Raziq al-Sawsa' will be appointed president of the People's court. [applause]

Brother 'Abd al-Salam 'Ali al-Mizighwi will be appointed president of the People's Prosecution Bureau.

The secretary of the General People's Congress and the secretaries of the people's congresses in the municipalities are charged with the organization of the People's Court, the definition of its departments, the selection of its members, and the selection of the members of the People's Prosecution Bureau from among those nominated by the basic people's congresses.

Kuwait

KUNA Notes TASS Comment on Relations

LD111059 Kuwait KUNA in English 0939 GMT 11 Mar 88

[Text] Moscow, March 11 (KUNA)—The comprehensive cooperation between Kuwait and the Soviet Union has been stable and of mutual benefits since the establishment of diplomatic relations between Kuwait and Moscow one quarter century ago, the official Soviet TASS news agency said.

In a comment on the 25th anniversary of establishing diplomatic relations between Kuwait and the Soviet Union, TASS said cooperation between the two countries is based on "the principles of equality and noninterference in internal affairs."

The commentary said recent years have witnessed rising Kuwaiti-Soviet political contacts that help develop mutual understanding," [quote mark as received] and referred the exchange of messages between his highness the amir of Kuwait and the Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev.

The agency noted that Kuwait and the Soviet Union adopt "similar stands toward most major international issues."

The agency referred to the agreement signed in Moscow between the two countries during the visit to the Soviet Union by Kuwaiti Oil Minister Shaykh 'Ali al-Khalifah al-Sabah last October on expanding cooperation in the oil and banking sectors and setting up joint establishments.

The agreement also stipulates for setting up joint Kuwait-Soviet committees to develop economic, scientific and technical cooperation.

Saudi Arabia

Communique Released on Visit by Ben Ali

LD101352 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 10 Mar 88

[Text] On the occasion of the visit of Tunisian President Zine El Abidine Ben Ali to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, the following joint communique has been issued and here is its text:

At the gracious invitation extended by the custodian of the two holy mosques, King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, king of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, to His Excellency President Zine El Abidine Ben Ali, president of the Tunisian Republic, the president paid an official visit to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia from 8-11 March 1988 [dates as heard] leading an important delegation.

President Zine El Abidine Ben Ali and his accompanying delegation were accorded an extremely warm reception and the hospitality by his brother, the custodian of the holy mosques, King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, and the Saudi officials, reflected the deep rooted fraternity between the two leaders and peoples of the two countries, the distinguished nature of bilateral ties, and the extent of the appreciation and friendship that Tunisia enjoys among the leadership and the people in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

In an atmosphere full of harmony, his excellency the guest president held with his brother the custodian of the two holy mosques talks that dealt with various aspects of bilateral relations and Arab, regional, and international issues of common interest. The leaders of the two countries expressed their extreme satisfaction at the identity of views between them.

The Saudi side blessed the change that took place in Tunisia on 7 November 1987 in the shadow of constitutional legitimacy. It expressed its delight at the steps and reforms that continue in succession in Tunisia at various levels and wished his excellency the president and the Tunisian people every success.

When reviewing the positive steps achieved by Saudi-Tunisian cooperation, the two leaders expressed their satisfaction at the consolidation and development which their scope heralds and issued directives for direct and enduring work to raise these relations to their best levels.

In accordance with these noble directives, talks were held between the delegation accompanying his excellency the president and Saudi officials, which focused on the evaulation of fruitful bilateral cooperation in the economic, social, cultural, information, and technical fields and the means for their consolidation and diversification in a way liable to achieve the common interest of both countries, enrich the blessed exchanges between them, and consolidate the strong ties that bring them together.

Within this context, an agreement on economic and trade cooperation between the two sister countries was signed, which is liable to develop the fields of trade and economic exchange and remove customs tariffs in relation to a great number of goods produced by each of the two sister countries.

During their talks, His Excellency President Zine El Abidine Ben Ali and the custodian of the two holy mosques, King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, surveyed the conditions in the occupied Arab territories. They expressed their full support for the Palestinian people's firm right to self-determination and to set up an independent state on its land, including holy Jerusalem, under the leadership of the PLO, its sole legitimate representative.

They expressed their pride in the steadfastness of this proud people and their distinguished appreciation of its blessed uprising and denounced the bloody bestiality and the inhumane treatment with which the Israeli army confronts unarmed women, children, aand youths in their struggle.

They confirmed their adherence to the Fez Arab plan and to their call for convening an international peace conference with the participation of the permanent members of the Security Council and all the concerned parties, including the PLO, to solve the problem justly and permanently.

Both sides expressed their sympathy with sister Lebanon with regard to the problems and difficulties confronting it and support its drive to recover its national cohesion, liberate its land from Israel, and recover its health in order to continue its contribution to Arab civilization. They praised the steadfastness and sacrifice demonstrated by it in its struggle against the Israeli occupation of its southern part.

As regards the situation in the Gulf, the sides discussed the developments in the Iraq-Iran war and the tragedy experienced by the peoples of the two neighborly countries and its negative repercussions that threaten the region. They expressed their deep regret at the results of this destructive war and their extreme anxiety at its continuation and the attempts to widen its scope.

They also reviewed international efforts exerted to put an end to this war. In this context, they praised Security Council Resolution No 598 issued on 2 July 1987 with the unanimous support of the member states. The resolution represents the will of the international community and was welcomed by world public opinion, as it aims at halting the blood-letting and destruction.

While they confirmed the resolution of the extraordinary Amman summit held last November, which expresses the united Arab stand vis-a-vis the Iraq-Iran war, and to which the two countries adhered, they express at the same time their appreciation of Iraq's positive attitude to Security Council Resolution No 598 which it agreed to implement without any reservations.

The two sides note with all regret Iran's attempt to procrastinate in accepting the resolution and urge the international community, foremost of which is the Security Council, to assume its responsibility by taking steps for to implement Resolution 598 as soon as possible.

Reviewing the general situation on the Arab scene, the two sides voiced satisfaction at the promising signs that allow for hope of concord between brothers in various Arab countries. They also expressed their firm determination to continue efforts to preserve all that consolidates inter-Arab solidarity and gives the Arab nation the ability to fulfill its objectives and confront the increasing challenges facing it.

In this respect, the Tunisian side saluted the important achievements realized by the fraternal Gulf states through the GCC on the way to realizing mutual progress.

For its part, the Saudi side showed satisfaction and hope for the positive efforts and contacts witnessed by the Arab Maghreb to provide a propitious climate for the building of the Great Arab Maghreb on firm and sound foundations.

The two sides reaffirmed their support for the African liberation movements in Namibia and South Africa and strongly condemned the policy of racial discrimination followed by the Government of South Africa and its repeated aggressions against the frontline states.

The two sides lauded the heroic steadfastness of the Islamic people in Afghanistan in confronting the forces occupying its homeland, stressing that they stand on the side of this people in its just struggle for the recovery of its freedom to define its own options and the nature of government in its country.

His Excellency President Zine El Abidine Ben Ali showed his appreciation for the efforts made by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, led by the custodian of the two holy mosques, in serving the holy mosque and in caring for the holy places by providing excellent facilities and good conditions for pilgrims from various parts of the world.

In this context, the two sides affirmed the need for commitment to good behavior while performing the rites of pilgrimage, avoidance of all that was likely to cause rift between the guests of God, and the right of Saudi authority to maintain order and deter those who go against the orders of God, who made of the holy mosque a center for the gathering of men and for security.

His Excellency President Ben Ali showed his great admiration for the signs of the comprehensive revival and the widespread opulence witnessed by the Kingdom thanks to the blessings of God and the good leadership of the custodian of the two holy mosques. He wished the Kingdom and its fraternal people more gains and progress and voiced his great thanks for the great hospitality and warm welcome accorded to him and his accompanying delegation on the part of his brother, the custodian of the two holy mosques, King Fahd, and his aides, their royal highnesses, and Saudi officials during his visit.

His Excellency President Zine El Abidine Ben Ali extended an invitation to the custodian of the two holy mosques, King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, to pay an official visit to the Republic of Tunisia. He accepted it with thanks and the date of the visit will be fixed later.

United Arab Emirates

Al Nuhayyan Rejects Soviet Proposal for Gulf

NC101612 Paris AFP in English 1559 GMT 10 Mar 87

[Text] Abu Dhabi, March 10 (AFP)—The United Arab Emirates has rejected a Soviet proposal to deploy a U.N. naval force in the Gulf to protect commercial shipping.

"I do not want the U.N. or any foreigners to protect us," UAE President Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan told the Egyptian newsweekly AL-MUSAWWAR in an interview published Thursday.

But he defended a decision by Kuwait to seek U.S. Navy escorts to defend Kuwaiti tankers against Iranian threats.

He said that if Iran increased pressure on Kuwait, the Gulf oil emirate could seek additional protection for its tankers and "may even ask for protection of its territory and waters."

Asked to comment on recent contacts between his country—representing the six-nation Gulf Cooperation Council—and Iran, the Arab leader said Iran's responses to peace proposals were not convincing.

In a wide-ranging interview, Mr. Al Nuhayyan also defended Egypt for signing a peace treaty with Israel in 1979, saying the treaty had not justified Cairo's suspension from the Arab League.

The UAE president was the first Gulf leader to restore diplomatic relations with Egypt following Arab League authorization last November.

"Without Egypt there will be no Arab action," Mr. Al Nuhayyan added. He is scheduled to visit Cairo next week.

Turning to the four-month Palestinian uprising in the Israeli occupied territories, the UAE leader said there should be no attempt to freeze or stop the protests until Palestinians enjoy self-determination.

He blasted the United States for what he called its biased policy towards Israel. "With such a policy, the Americans have become Israelis," he said.

5 Principles To Stop Cities War Detailed

JN101529 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1300 GMT 10 Mar 88

[Text] President Saddam Husayn chaired a meeting of the RCC and the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party Regional Command today. Following the meeting, an official spokesman stated the following:

The record of the Iranian aggression against Iraq confirms that this aggression began with the shelling of Iraqi cities with heavy artillery on 4 September 1980. The Iraqi cities were not saved from this shelling except during the period in which our valiant forces pushed back the aggressive Iranian military concentrations.

At the same time, the Iranian planes continued to carry out extensive raids on Iraqi cities, aiming at civilians and civilian residential areas. This shelling did not lessen except after the destruction of the Iranian Air Force, whose capabilities for attacking the Iraqi cities and villages lessened, although it continued its cowardly bombardment when it could.

The evil Iranian regime continued its shelling of the Iraqi cities and villages along the borders, particularly the valiant city of Basra, the second most populous Iraqi city, with heavy artillery and all types of weapons. This happened after our forces withdrew to the international border in June 1982, and after the Iranian concentrations once again came close to the Iraqi cities which are close to border areas, as was the case at the beginning of the Iranian aggression against Iraq on 4 September 1980.

At the time, we were compelled to reply in kind to the Iranian aggressions against our people. In light of this situation, the Iranian regime began to fabricate delusive propaganda on this issue. Out of its sincere desire for peace and to save civilians from the catastrophes of war, Iraq called for concluding a special agreement between the two countries to avoid attacking residential areas, through the message President Saddam Husayn addressed to the Iranian peoples on 7 June 1983. However, Iran did not accept that proposal.

When the UN Security Council adopted Resolution 540 on 31 October, calling for an immediate moratorium on all military operations against civilian targets, including cities and residential areas, Iraq accepted the aforementioned resolution. But Iran rejected it and continued its evil shelling of Iraqi cities, encouraged by its calculations of its supremacy in this field, through which it can harm Iraq and further its aggressive and expansionist objectives.

In 1984, Iran carried out a large-scale offensive against Iraq. It began its offensive by shelling the Iraqi cities, particularly the cities of Basra and Al-'Amarah, which were the targets of that offensive. However, the Iranian regime, whose offensive was deterred by a strong Iraqi reply, found itself under the strong Iraqi hammers of the Iraqi Air Force, which had become capable of replying in kind and of punishing the evil aggressors.

As a result of this Iraqi superiority, on 12 June 1984 it became possible to reach an understanding with the UN secretary general on avoiding attacks on purely residential targets. Iraq used and will continue to use its ability and superiority to entrench the values of peace. However, shortly after the Iranian regime had obtained surface-to-surface missiles from known sources, thinking it had gained superiority in this field, it began to prepare an atmosphere for resuming the cities war.

While the UN Security Council was discussing the POW tragedy based on the report of the UN secretary general's mission, the Iranian regime fabricated justifications to resume the bombardment of Iraqi cities on 5 March 1985. On that occasion, the Iranian regime used surface-to-surface missiles to bombard Baghdad and Kirkuk. It imagined that the missiles it had obtained would improve its position in the balance of conflict and pave the way for the wide-scale aggression it carried out against Iraq a few days later, on 12 March 1985.

Throughout the following years, the Iranian regime continued to shell Iraqi cities, particularly Basra, Al-'Amarah, Khanaqin, Al-Sulaymaniyah, and other cities within the range of its long-range heavy artillery. It also continued to bombard Baghdad in particular with the missiles whose destructive power it praised and boasted about, claiming that it had provided them. This, although the entire world knew from where it obtained these missiles and with what cheap means.

Iraq drew attention to these criminal acts through letters and documents to the international organizations, particularly the United Nations. The diplomatic missions to Iraq, as well as representatives of the United Nations, the Red Cross, and Arab and foreign press, witnessed the effects of the Iranian bombardment, which was aimed against residential areas, schools, and hospitals.

They witnessed with their own eyes the corpses of women and chidlren who were killed by the Iranian missiles and shells. There were 168 Iraqi reports to the United Nations on Iranian attacks on purely residential areas during the period from 1983 to the end of February 1988. There were 17 letters addressed by the foreign minister to the UN secretary general. This is in addition to tens of other letters addressed by Iraq's permanent UN representative and letters to the International Committee for the Red Cross and other international organizations.

Since acquiring the missiles it boasted about, the Iranian regime has launched 3 missiles on the city of Kirkuk and 39 missiles on our capital Baghdad, up to 29 February 1988. Between the time that the international community voiced its opinion regarding the need to establish peace—through Security Council Resolution 598—and

1 March 1988, the Iranian regime launched 248 attacks on purely residential areas in Iraq. It also launched 26 surface-to-surface missiles on Baghdad.

This documented record, which has been communicated to the UN secretary general and international organizations, confirms that Iran started the war through attacking Iraqi cities. It also confirms that Iran used the war of the cities as one of the important means of the expansionist campaign against Iraq, and that it started the war of missiles by bombarding Baghdad and Kirkuk with missiles in March 1985.

In 1986 and 1987, the Iranian regime frantically tried to provoke Iraq by shelling our cities with heavy artillery and medium-range missiles, and also by firing long-range missiles on Baghdad. Their intention was to create confusion and obstruct the efforts of the international community to establish peace, and also to pave the way for launching acts of aggression aginst Iraq. However, despite the losses we sustained and the aggressions perpetrated against our women and children, we did not return the attacks.

Among the things we recall are their dirty crimes of shelling the Bilat al-Shuhada' School and firing a missile on Baghdad on the day the Amman summit convened. This was intended to defy the Arab nation and display indifference to its genuine desire for peace.

This is the Iranian regime's record and Iraq's record. Iraq, which seeks to achieve peace, and which has expressed its serious and sincere desire to achieve peace through its constructive and responsible responses to all international initiatives and resolutions, has never desired to resort to this method. But, despite the wisdom and patience that Iraq displayed, it was sometimes forced to retaliate.

When it retaliated, its retaliation was strong and decisive, an expression of its capabilities. Iraq's sincere desire to establish peace parallels its high degree of capability in defending its sovereignty, security, and the lives of its compatriots. This desire is prompted by wisdom, patience, and a sense of responsibility, rather than by weakness.

This time, as on previous occasions, the criminal Iranian regime was the first to start the cities war. The Iranian regime exploited a bombing raid launched by the aircraft of our powerful Air Force on an oil refinery that is 10 km from Tehran—an action that falls within the context of their natural and continuous activities of attacking the Iranian economic centers—to issue a warning on 27 February that it would shell Baghdad, Basra, and other Iraqi cities.

We immediately issued a clear, unequivocal warning to this regime on the same day, telling it that if it once again committed acts of agression against residential centers in our cities, our reply would be strong and comprehensive, and that Tehran and all Iranian cities would be targets for our missiles and the projectiles of our planes and other weapons.

However, the Iranian regime, whose behavior is governed by the instincts of killing and destruction and is entrapped in self-delusions, has based its calculations on the idea that it has superiority in this field because it possesses missiles. It thought our announcement regarding Iraq's success in manufacturing a missile that can reach Tehran was no more than a pretension, because this regime's livelihood depends on lies and pretensions and it deludes itself into believing that others share its infamous characteristics.

The Tehran rulers, the nurturers of evil, having based their calculations on this basis, defied the great people of Iraq and fired two missiles on Baghdad on 29 February, killing women and children and demolishing civilian houses and property. They also shelled Basra, Al-'Amarah, and other dear Iraqi cities with a shower of heavy artillery projectiles and rocket launcher shells. Therefore, we were dutybound to reply to this and to make this reply a decisive and strong one.

Here we must recall the clear connections between the aggressive Zionist plans and the Iranian schemes of aggression. In July 1982, the Iranian regime began its large-scale aggression against Iraq, aimed at the great city of Basra. The Iranian enemy carried out intensive shelling of Basra while the Zionist forces of invasion were advancing to occupy Beirut, bombarding the city with artillery and rockets with the aim of liquidating the Palestinian people's resistance.

Now, when the Palestinian Arab people's uprising in the occupied territory is escalating, placing the usurping Zionist enemy at an impasse, the regime of liars and charlatans in Tehran is rendering a service to its Zionist allies by igniting the cities war.

Their intention is to draw attention away from the uprising, confuse issues in the region, and maintain the state of war, aggression, tension, and occupation in which the Iranian regime and its allies in Tel Aviv are taking part, and from which they derive their livelihood. The Iranian regime is repaying the services rendered by its allies in Tel Aviv in order to continue its war of aggression against Iraq and the Arab nation.

Since 29 February, Iraq has been teaching the tyrant Iranian rulers harsh lessons. The Al-Husayn missiles which were launched against Tehran, Qom, and Esfahan, and the Iraqi Air Force missiles, were clear messages of warning to the Iranian rulers. These messages told them that the path of war and aggression is a dead end, and that the solution lies in peace. These messages told them that their dreams of occupying Iraq and imposing their will have been destroyed one after the other.

Illusions based on the so-called Iranian supremacy of manpower collapsed when alert and mobilized Iraq was capable of recruiting, from among its able, enlightened, and well-armed men, more troops than the backward Iranian soldiers, whom their rulers drove to the warfront like animals. The illusions of breaking the Iraqi spirit by prolonging the war were also dissipated. Iraq's will became deeper and stronger throughout the struggle of our Iraqi people and their Armed Forces, under the banner of the inspired leader Saddam Husayn and in defense of Iraqi sovereignty and dignity, as well as Iraqi principles—particularly the realization of honorable, just peace.

Iraqi achievements in all fields, especially in the war industries and the manufacture of Al-Husayn missiles, have proven that Iraq's creative ability is expanding and developing while Iran is wallowing in backwardness, deterioration, and stagnation because of the policy of its criminal, backward rulers, who stand against progress and the movement of history by insisting on illusions and myths, and seeking expansion and aggression.

The spokesman added: The leadership has considered the situation from its various angles. The leadership believes that the lesson taught to the criminal Iranian rulers was clear, eloquent, coupled with strength, and based on the principles and values of Iraq, the heir to and creator of great culture.

At the same time, the leadership has noted that certain circles have been exploiting the current situation, in order to market plans and promote ideas aimed at dividing the war and dealing with its results at the expense of the comprehensive principles embodied in the UN Security Council Resolution No 598. The leadership has also noted that other circles have been exploiting the situation to promote dishonest aims.

As the lesson has been conveyed to the Tehran rulers, as an assertion of the sincere, serious efforts aimed at stressing a comprehensive peace which can only be achieved through the complete implementation of UN Security Council Resolution No 598 as an indivisible whole, and in accordance with its operative clauses as formulated by the Security Council, it was decided at today's meeting to halt the bombardment of Iranian cities with missiles, aircraft, and other weapons 24 hours after the announcement of this statement—that is, at 1600 hours local time [1300 GMT] tomorrow, Friday 11 March 1988, in accordance with the following bases:

1. Since Iran began the cities war every time, including this time, and since Iran began the shelling of our great capital Baghdad in 1985 and this time, when it fired two missiles on Baghdad on 29 February, the last shelling operation must be an Iraqi one before this moratorium is implemented on the set date. If the Iranian regime shells any of our cities with missiles, planes, or artillery in reply to the last Iraqi operation, then we will strongly and comprehensively continue the shelling to teach the Tehran rulers a lesson.

2. Iraq will resume the shelling of Iranian cities with all means if the Iranian regime resumes its shelling of Iraqi cities and villages with artillery, planes, missiles, or any other weapons aimed at civilians and strictly residential areas.

3. Iraq will resume the bombardment of Iranian cities with all means if the Iranian regime attacks any Arab city as it has in the past.

4. Iraq will resume the bombardment of Iranian cities with all means if the Iranian regime carries out any new aggression against our international border, or attempts to invade our territory on the axes leading to Iraqi cities. In all previous invasion attempts, Iraqi cities like Basra, Al-Amarah, Khanaqin, Al-Sulaymaniyah, and others were targets for the Iranian regime's artillery and other weapons. This time we will respond to these attempts comprehensively, through the bombardment of all Iranian cities.

5. It is necessary to assert that no confusion should occur between the bombardment of economic targets which serve the aggressive war machine, and the bombardment of purely residential areas. As long as the Iranian regime continues the aggressive war against Iraq, Iraq will be entitled to strike at the targets which serve and feed the machine of aggression and war. This is approved by international law.

The spokesman added: These are the bases we lay down. They are clear and just. We will abide by our pledge not to bombard Iranian cities as of 1600 tomorrow, Friday. If the Iranian regime violates these bases, we will be forced to resume a firm and comprehensive response..

The spokesman affirmed that the international community, especially the UN Security Council, is now required to continue serious, persistent work to seriously implement UN Security Council Resolution No 598 through the issuance of a resolution imposing sanctions on Iran, which has insisted on defying the international community's will, has refused to abide by the binding UN Security Council resolution, and has continued war, killing, and destruction.

Turkey's Ozal Discusses End to Cities War

TA101720 Ankara Domestic Service in Turkish 1700 GMT 10 Mar 88

[Text] Prime Minister Turgut Ozal has said that his call yesterday for Iran and Iraq to stop the war of the cities has been received positively. He said that Iran agreed to the call immediately, while Iraq has announced that it will stop its missile attacks tomorrow at 1500.

In a news conference he held in Ankara today, Ozal said that following his call for an end to the war of the cities, the Foreign Ministry undertook an initiative with both countries on this subject. He said:

[Begin recording] In an appeal yesterday, I made public the fact that we view with great concern the war of the cities between Iran and Iraq, two friendly and neighborly countries. This war resumed a week ago and has escalated ever since. It is directed against civilian residential areas for announced purposes and causes the loss of life and property of innocent people. I further pointed out that the war of the cities was no doubt negatively affecting peaceful efforts to end the war between Iran and Iraq, and called on both countries to stop such attacks immediately and to act with moderation.

Following my call yesterday the Foreign Ministry appealed to both countries, asking them to put an end to the war of the cities in order to prevent the further loss of life and property of innocent people. Iran officially notified us today that it will agree to the call. According to information I received from the Iraqi ambassador in Ankara, Iraq will stop these attacks tomorrow at 1300 GMT.

It is our genuine desire for the war of the cities to end in this way. Though it is unexpected, should these promises not be fulfilled Turkey will use all peaceful means at its disposal to stop these attacks.

According the information we have, Iran's decision was made during a governmental meeting held at the highest level, while Iraq's decision was made during a meeting of the Revolution Command Council, which met under President Saddam Husayn.

Despite all this information, I hope there will not be any hesitation, because we are also aware that difficulties may arise in this war, which has been going on for 8 years. [end recording]

In reply to questions by journalists, Ozal said that ending the war of the cities is a small step toward the realization of peace, adding that what is desired is that the war between the two countries end totally.

Reportage on Gulf War Combat Activities

Communique Details Air Strikes

JN101629 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1516 GMT 10 Mar 88

[Communique No 3,063 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 10 March 1988]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Our daring Air Force planes have continued to strike deep inside enemy territory, carrying out the following heroic operations:

1. At 1015 [0715 GMT] today, a destructive strike was dealt to the Shushtar power station. The target was hit and heavily damaged.

2. At the same time, other planes were launching a devastating strike at the fuel reservoirs in Shushtar.

3. At 1027, a destructive strike was dealt to the fuel reservoirs in Azna, setting them ablaze.

4. At 1030 today, our planes directed a destructive strike at the enemy's industrial and economic establishments in the city of Shahrabad-e Kord.

5. At the same time, other planes were directing a destructive strike at the city of Daran.

6. At 1031, our planes directed a destructive raid against the city of Dezful.

7. At 1100 today, our planes directed a destructive strike at the city of Hamadan.

8. At 1139, our planes directed destructive strikes at the enemy artillery positions east of Hawr al-Hawizah.

9. At 1415, our planes directed a violent blow to the enemy's economic and military establishments in the Gilan-e Gharb area.

10. At 1450, our planes directed a destructive strike at the city of Pol-e Zahab.

11. At 1542, our planes carried out another strike at the fuel reservoirs in Shushtar, destroying their targets and setting them ablaze.

12. At 1544, our planes launched a destructive raid against the helicopter airport in Masjed-e Soleyman, pounding their targets.

13. At 1545, our planes directed a devastating strike at the radio transmission station in Ilam, destroying their targets.

14. At 1625, our planes raided the industrial centers in Khorramabad, violently destroying their targets.

15. At 1630, our planes carried out a destructive raid against the Do Rud cement factory, destroying their targets.

16. At 1650, our planes launched a destructive raid against the city of Hamadan.

17. At 1720, our planes launched a destructive raid against the city of Dezful.

After carrying out all of the above missions, our planes returned to base, safe and triumphant in God's care.

Praised be our heroic Air Force—commanders, pilots, officers, and men—for their splendid, continuous efforts to teach the enemy eloquent lessons and show the enemy, which ignited the war of the cities, the great power of Iraq, and to avenge our martyrs.

Glory, dignity, victory, freedom, and progress will be our lot under the banner of our great leader Saddam Husayn, may God preserve him. From God we seek support and success.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 10 March 1988

Missile Strikes Detailed

JN101750 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1705 GMT 10 Mar 88

[Communique No 3,064 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 10 March]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. The powerful Al-Husayn missile force has continued to destroy the dens of backwardness and fascist rancor. It carried out the following devastating missile strikes at enemy cities:

1. At 2250 [1950 GMT] last night, the 45th strike with the Al-Husayn missiles was carried out against the city of Tehran, the capital of charlatans.

2. The 46th strike with Al-Husayn missiles was launched at the city of Tehran at 0534 today.

3. The 47th strike with Al-Husayn missiles was launched at the city of Tehran at 1230 today.

4. The 48th strike with Al-Husayn missiles was launched at the city of Qom, the center of the Khomeyniite charlatanism, at 1750 today.

Praise be to God, and long live our great leader Saddam Husayn, the architect of Iraq's glory and its strong forces, the defender of Iraq's territory, its people's dignity, and the glory of its houses and cities, which are full of faith and good deeds.

Praise be to all those who carried out the instructions of our great leader and guided them to manufacture this new strong and devastating weapon, the Al-Husayn missile, which expressed the Iraqi citizen's genius and his strong will. Glory to struggler men of the military industries. You have proved that you have genius brains.

You will continue to deserve God's care, the leader's praise, and the people's love. Your achievements will continue to be recorded in the eternal annals of Al-Qadisiyah. Blessed be the men of the valiant Al-Husayn missile force. March ahead.

[Signed] the Armed Forces General Command, 10 March 1988

Communique No 3,065

JN101825 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1709 GMT 10 Mar 88

[Communique No 3,065 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 10 March]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Our valiant Armed Forces continued their combat activities in the sectors of operations, inflicting further losses on the enemy. The results of these activities for last night and today were as follows:

1. Our units in the I Army Corps northern sector killed 24 scoundrels and destroyed a tank, 6 vehicles, 3 60-mm mortars, and 5 various positions.

2. In the II Army Corps central sector, 10 enemy personnel were killed, 4 observation posts and 2 infantry positions were destroyed, and an ammunition dump was blown up.

3. Three various positions were destroyed and their personnel were killed or wounded in the III Army Corps sector east of Al-Basrah.

4. Four scoundrels were killed in the IV Army Corps sector east of Maysan.

5. A shovel [preceding word in English] and an infantry position were destroyed and a number of enemy personnel were killed in the VII Army Corps sector.

6. The criminal Iranian regime continued to shell residential areas in the cities of Basra, Al-Sulaymaniyah, 'Ali al-Gharbi, Al-Qurnah, Al-Dayr, Badrah, and Qal'at Dizah today with long-range artillery.

The enemy shelling martyred and wounded a number of civilians, including women, old people, and children, and demolished and damaged several houses, shops, civilian cars, and other property. May God have mercy and forgiveness on our martyrs and swift recovery to our wounded, God willing.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 10 March 1988

Downing of Planes Denied

JN102038 Baghdad INA in Arabic 2005 GMT 10 Mar 88

[Text] Baghdad, 10 Mar (INA)—An Iraqi military spokesman has denied Iranian claims of downing three Iraqi planes today. The spokesman said that all Iraqi planes carried out their missions deep in Iranian territory and returned safely to base.

The spokesman added that these cheap methods and repeated lies indicate the Iranian regime's actual impotence in confronting Iraq.

Baghdad Hit by Missile

JN102130 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 2113 GMT 10 Mar 88

[Statement by a military spokesman dated 10 March]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. At 1933 [1633 GMT] today, the criminal Iranian enemy fired one of its missiles, which was supplied to it by our country's enemies.

The missile landed on a residential quarter in Baghdad, martyring a number of our citizens, including women and children, and wounding others, also including women and children. The attack demolished and damaged a number of houses and commercial stores.

May mercy and forgiveness be the lot of our martyrs and may a swift recovery be the lot of our wounded, God willing. The Iranian rulers should be ready to receive Iraq's reply at all times and in all areas. It is a severe, cruel reply, as they have learned recently.

[Dated] 10 March 1988

Iran Continues Shelling

JN110821 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0755 GMT 11 Mar 88

[Text] Baghdad, 11 Mar (INA)—Iranian long-range artillery last night shelled residential areas in Basra, Badrah, Khanaqin, Al-Harithah, Al-Qurnah, Al-Sulaymaniyah, Al-Majjar al-Kabir, and Qal'at Dizah.

A military spokesman said that as a result of the enemy shelling, several civilians, including women, children, and the elderly, were either martyred or wounded and several houses, shops, and civilian cars were either destroyed or damaged.

Shelling Continues in South

JN111052 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1035 GMT 11 Mar 88

[Text] Basra, southern Iraq, 11 Mar (INA)—Journalists in Basra report that the Basra residential areas are being subjected to barbaric artillery shelling, which was continuing at noon today. The journalists, members of the INA team, add that the city of Al-Dayr, 50 km north of Basra, and Al-Qurnah, 75 km north of Basra, are also being shelled.

The journalists said that as a result of this shelling, many citizens, including women and children, were either martyred or wounded.

The journalists noted that the shelling is being directed against densely populated areas.

The Iranian long-range artillery shelling escalated at 0900 [0600 GMT] today, Friday.

Downing of Aircraft Denied

JN111205 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1148 GMT 11 Mar 88

[Text] Baghdad, 11 Mar (INA)—The Iraqi military spokesman has denied Iranian allegations that one Iraqi aircraft was shot down today and another yesterday.

The spokesman said: Iraqi aircraft flew 18 raids deep inside enemy territory last night and today and all returned safely to base; no Iraqi aircraft was shot down yesterday, as the Iranians have claimed.

The spokesman concluded: This was expected from the Iranian Government, as it wants to lessen the impact of the calamity that has befallen it. The spokesman challenged the Iranian Government to produce any evidence to substantiate its claims, especially since the Iraqi aircraft had carried out their missions inside enemy territory.

He added: Had the Iranian claims been true, the wreckage of the aircraft or the body of the pilot would have been found. However, the Iranians always lie and their claims are never substantiated.

Iranian Air Strike Noted

JN111338 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1326 GMT 11 Mar 88

[Text] Baghdad, 11 Mar (INA)—Two Iranian F-4 planes raided residential areas in Kallar in the Al-Sulaymaniyah Governorate at 1220 [0920 GMT] today. A number of civilians, including women, old men, and children, were martyred and wounded. A number of houses, civilian cars, shops, and property were also damaged.

Communique Lists Strikes

JN111505 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1320 GMT 11 Mar 88

[Communique No 3,066 issued by a military spokesman on 11 March]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassioante. Our country is bestowed with heroism. This is symbolized by a leader who stands for rightness, hatred for evil, and love for his people. Our country takes pride in the achievements of its people who have been experiencing glorious days graced with victory under the leadership of the grandchildren of the last prophet.

O proud Iraqis, it is no surprise that the charlatans' regime ignited the war of the cities and the entire war. This clique was put on the peacock throne under circumstances known to us all to spread corruption on earth and sow dissension and devastation at the expense of security, progress, and peace.

The rotten, backward ideology of the Khomeyni clique, descended from the darkest centuries, is the antithesis of life. But the Iraqi people, by virtue of their leader's thoughts, energy, and courage, as well as the popular efforts on the battlefield and in the workplace, have managed to defeat the symbol of barbarism along the borders.

They have proven capable of beating back the savage aggression against the Iraqi cities—the oases of freedom and the light of certainty. O glorious Iraqis, your gigantic missile force last night and today mounted the following missile strikes against the enemy cities:

1. At 2150 [1850 GMT] yesterday the 49th missile attack was directed at Tehran, the capital of the charlatans with Al-Husayn missiles.

2. At 0200 today [2300 GMT on 10 March], the 50th missile attack was directed at Tehran with Al-Husayn missiles.

3. At 0210 today the 51st missile attack was directed with Al-Husayn missiles at Qom—the focus of intellectual backwardness and the center of the Khomeyniite sorcery and charlatanism.

4. At 0400 today [0100 GMT] the 52d missile attack was directed at Tehran with Al-Husayn missiles.

5. At 0530 today Al-Husayn missiles pounded Tehran with the 53d missile attack.

6. At the same time Al-Husayn missiles were pounding Qom with the 54th missile attack.

7. At 1145 today the 55th missile attack was directed at Teheran with Al-Husayn missiles.

8. At 1215 today the 56th missile attack was directed at Tehran with Al-Husayn missiles.

9. At 1230 today the 57th missile attack was directed at Tehran with Al-Husayn missiles.

10. At 1537 today the 58th missile attack was directed at Qom with Al-Husayn missiles.

11. At 1543 today the 59th missile attack was directed at Tehran with Al-Husayn missiles.

12. At 1544 today the 60th missile attack was directed at Tehran with Al-Husayn missiles.

We have stated our warnings to the Tehran rulers. Now these enemies should learn the hardest lesson taught to any ruler in modern times. If they desist, they will be sparing the blood and property of their peoples. If they do not, and if they violate any of the five just principles laid down by our leadership, it is their own affair. This means that they will have disobeyed God's orders and their actions will be accursed.

If they resort to hollow vanity and arrogance instead of wisdom, they will have chosen the path of complete destruction. We are validated before God, history, and all mankind. No one can blame us for defending our sanctities, sovereignty, achievements, hopes, and our elderly, women, and children. No one can blame us for defending our places of worship, homes, children, and property.

May God bless all those who have abided by the instructions of our leader on the road of righteousness. May God bless all those who have made a contribution with their intelligence, plans, and actions. May God bless the men of military industrialization—the true, good models of Iraq's new citizen. They promised and delivered. They excelled in what they made.

May God bless the men of our missile force—the good seeds of the Iraqi military minds. Let us march foward under the banner of our beloved leader Saddam Husayn. Thanks be to God, the champion of the faithful.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 11 March 1988

Communique Lists Air Raids

JN111435 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1341 GMT 11 Mar 88

[Communique No 3,067 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 11 March]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Day and night, our gigantic Air Force aircraft, commanded by the rapacious hawks, penetrated deep inside and all over enemy territory. They used the Air Force in a unique way, in terms of planning, piloting, intensity, courage, and performance. The enemy economic and military targets and the criminal, despotic Khomeyniite dens were destroyed.

Our Air Force avenged our martyrs, adding good deeds to its record. Our Air Force contributed to the bitter defeat of the enemy in the cities war, which the enemy ignited. Our Air Force contributed to the deadly stabs directed at the enemy, giving categorical proof that the Iraq of the Arabs and Saddam Husayn is the strong, impregnable, dear, and victorious country in all fields.

Last night and today, our Air Force flew the following heroic missions:

1. At 1915 [1615 GMT] yesterday, a violent blow was dealt to the city of Dezful.

2. Last night also, our aircraft dealt an accurate, effective blow to a large maritime target near the Iranian coast.

3. At 2138 [1838 GMT] yesterday, our aircraft deal a destructive blow to the city of Arak.

4. At 2211 last night, our aircraft launched a destructive raid on the city of Borujerd.

5. At 0800 [0500 GMT] today, our aircraft launched a violent raid on the city of Kermanshah [Bakhtaran] and destroyed their targets.

6. At 0800 today also, a number of our planes raided Dezful.

7. At 0835 today, other planes pounded targets in Hamadan.

8. At 0946 today, our aircraft launched a violent raid on the enemy economic installations in the city of Ardabil, destroying their targets and setting them ablaze.

9. At 1000 today, our aircraft launched a destructive raid on the enemy economic installations in the city of Gilan-e Gharb.

10. At 1000 today also, other planes launched a violent raid on the city of Pol-e Zahab.

11. At 1000 today also, a number of our planes launched a violent raid on the sugar factory in Shahabad [Eslamabad], pounding their targets and setting them ablaze.

12. At 1000 today also, other planes launched a violent raid on the city of Ilam.

13. At 1000 today also, a number of our planes launched a violent raid on the Baneh radio station to silence the voice of charalatanism and Khomeyniite sedition.

14. At 1007, a number of our planes carried out a destructive raid on the enemy's economic installations in the city of Maragheh.

15. At 1115, our planes infiltrated into the northernmost part of Iran to attack targets in the city of Rasht near the Caspian Sea coast.

16. At 1130 today, a number of our planes carried out a series of violent raids in the industrial installations in the city of Khorramabad.

17. At 1130 today, our planes also dealt a violent blow to the television transmission equipment in Taheri in order to silence the Khomeyniite lies.

18. At 1150, our planes carried out another raid on the city of Hamadan.

19. At 1246, our planes carried out a raid on a hostile radar station, disrupting their target.

20. At 1245, our planes carried out a violent raid on the permanent gas plant in the Bandar-e Mashahr, destroying their target and setting it ablaze.

21. At 1303 today, our planes carried out a violent raid on the city of Dehloran.

22. At 1415, our planes carried out a crushing raid on the television transmitter in Ilam, destroying their targets.

23. At 1404, our planes carried out another destructive raid on the city of Dezful.

24. At 1445, our planes carried out a destructive raid on the communications station in Garang.

25. At 1545, our planes carried out a destructive raid on the city of Dezful.

26. At 1555, our planes carried out another destructive raid on the city of Kermanshah [Bakhtaran].

After carrying out all these heroic duties, all of our planes returned safely and victorious to base, in God's care. O the great men of our Air Force: Your deeds have been the deeds of loyal, courageous, capable men. You also have been God's punishment on his enemies, the best protectors of your homeland, and the best guards of your homes.

Your efforts will be appreciated by the entire world, and Iraq and the Arab nation will take pride in your efforts. God bless you—commanders, hawks, officers, and other ranks. Go ahead to destroy the unjust. God be with you.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 11 March 1988

Prime Minister Interviewed on Shultz Plan

TA110801 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0600 GMT 11 Mar 88

[Interview with Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir by political correspondent 'Oz Frankel and Mikha Friedman—live]

[Text] [Friedman] Good morning, Mr Shamir.

[Shamir] Good morning.

[Friedman] By the time you reach Washington, sir, somebody will have already translated for Mr Shultz your interview to HA'ARETZ this morning, in which you say that the only word you accept in the Shultz document is the signature with his name. Is this what you will tell him?

[Shamir] I have already told him all my reservations. Perhaps he will hear additional reservations regarding the clauses of his proposal. Of course I will muster all my ability and mention all the arguments in order to explain to our friend Secretary of State Shultz that his plan, as it looks today, cannot solve the peace problem in our area and cannot ensure the safety and security of Israel.

[Friedman] Do you completely reject this plan, or do you see so good points in it?

[Shamir] I am not searching for bad or good points. It has the advantage of having been prepared by and being in the hands of Israel's friend, who does not want to harm us. Moreover, he built the lion's share of his plan on the basis of the Camp David agreements, which were accepted—and even prepared—by Israel.

Extremely far-reaching changes, however, have been introduced in these clauses, and these have turned the blessing of the Camp David agreements into something else.

[Frankel] Nevertheless, in the same interview we mentioned earlier you say that perhaps the best thing in the U.S. plan is the signature at the bottom—George Shultz' signature. From what you have said this week, you appear to be rejecting the plan.

Why can we not clearly tell the Americans, perhaps by means of a government decision, that Israel does not accept the plan and that there is nothing to talk about?

[Shamir] Everything I have said, am saying, and will say is clear. I am about to travel to the United States, however, in order to continue the discussion of the plan, to make suggestions and try to convince, to try to make changes—albeit far-reaching ones. Therefore I do not think that I should say beforehand that there is absolutely no chance of reaching any kind of agreement with Secretary of State Shultz. A few days here or there will not make much difference.

[Frankel] Shultz said during his trip to the Middle East that his plan is not like a cafeteria where anybody can choose whatever he wants while ignoring the rest. Do you believe we can bargain with the Americans over their initiative, as they presented it?

[Shamir] Well, if we are speaking about a cafeteria, then unfortunately the menu was mostly selected on the basis of the Arabs' taste. When I spoke with Secretary Shultz, however, even in our last meeting, I understood from him that things can be changed, that the paper presented to us is not holy scripture that cannot be altered, and therefore I am traveling with the hope and belief that we can convince, that we can raise doubts concerning the results of this plan, and that we can reach some kind of agreement.

[Friedman] Why are you so adamantly opposed to an international conference along the lines of Shultz' proposal? According to Shultz, the conference will not be able to impose solutions or veto agreements, and it is written that the sides are entitled—this is what is written—to submit their reports to the conference on the status of the negotiations between them. Nowhere is it written that they must do so.

So what is the great danger in such a conference?

[Shamir] First, Mr Shultz himself has always opposed a conference, even a conference in this form. When he presented this paper, or even earlier, when he said that an international conference would be one of the clauses of the plan, he did not give me any reasons justifying this proposal, because he knows that it is completely uncalled for, that it is not useful, will cause damage, and entails dangers.

And I will say why: first, the enthusiastic support for the plan by all the elements hostile and opposed to Israel's positions—the Soviet Union and its allies, all the Arabs elements from the PLO to Jordan, the European countries which adhere to the Venice Declarations, etc. It cannot be assumed that all these elements would demonstrate such enthusiastic support for such a conference and would consider it a precondition to any discussion on a peace plan if such a conference were to be ineffective and without any authority. This does not make sense.

Moreover, even though it is written that the conference could not impose or veto, nobody can prevent it from making decisions and declarations which would be acceptable to almost all the participants. The conference would be held under UN auspices, and the way from here to the UN Security Council will be very short. I am convinced that all those who are demanding such a conference clearly intend to harm Israel's position, to pressure Israel, and to put it in an impossible situation.

I remember Secretary Shultz saying, when there was an argument over the international conference issue, that an international conference is the opposite of direct negotiations, and that the only game in town—as the American saying goes—is direct negotiations. Today I heard on the radio that Shultz said the only game in town is his plan.

[Frankel] You, however, have also agreed to an international opening with the participation of the two superpowers. Here too we could be faced with the same problems: the possibility of imposed solutions by the two superpowers, one of them being the Soviet Union, which is hostile to us.

[Shamir] You are mistaken. There is a profound difference here. I was told by Mr Shultz himself that what the Jordanian king wants is a certain form of international legitimization, and therefore the secretary of state proposed to me that I agree to the heads of the Middle East countries being invited to the summit between the United States and the Soviet Union, instead of a conference.

The two superpower leaders would appeal to the heads of state to enter direct peace negotiations, and this would be the end of the matter, this would end the ceremony of international legitimation. I agreed to this on certain conditions, and King Husayn refused.

[Friedman] The term sides which appears in Shultz letter causes you to fear that the PLO will also be recognized as a legitimate side to the negotiations. However, this very same term sides appears in UN Resolution 338 and in the Camp David agreements to which you fervently adhere.

[Shamir] You did not present my opinion very accurately. I did not refer to the term sides. I said that the secretary general—and this is what it says—will send invitations to all the sides involved in the conflict, and based on the UN resolutions and its constitution I have absolutely no doubt that the UN secretary general will have to invite the PLO.

[Frankel] Mr Prime Minister, this week the EEC countries showed that the events in the territories can be tied to economic relations with Israel. Are you not concerned that this example will be copied or imitated by our U.S. allies, at a time when we are facing pressures and threats of aid cuts?

[Shamir] First, I can refer to the statements and various declarations by the U.S. leadership, both in the administration and in Congress. They clearly stated that they cannot even conceive of using the aid or other things to pressure Israel. The European move is very serious; it is unacceptable and inappropriate and runs counter to EEC beliefs, which are based on freedom and economic liberalism. This pressure stems from a very hostile attitude toward Israel which has been developing over the last decade, and perhaps even earlier.

There is a tendency to compensate the Arab states, to give them some kind of present at Israel's expense. These negotiations over Israel's agricultural exports to Europe have been going on for years and ended, after tremendous efforts, with the agreement of all the European countries—and they did this not as a benevolent gesture toward Israel.

As everyone knows there is a very large trade deficit between Israel and Europe; we buy from Europe much more than we sell to it, and this was their primary reason for making the agreement with us. Therefore, I do not believe that this step by the European Parliament will be long-lived, and I sincerely hope that Europe will soon retract this step.

[Friedman] Tzahi Hanegbi, the head of your bureau, this week called for firing Shim'on Peres because, according to Hanegbi, Peres or his people leaked the Shultz document. You, Mr Shamir, probably did one of two things: Either you reprimanded Hanegbi for his sharp remarks, or you praised his action.

[Shamir] I have not heard of anybody appointing you to the position of attorney general or state attorney, and if you want to launch a complaint please direct it to these addresses.

[Friedman] That was not the tenor of the question. The question is what have you done...

[Shamir, interrupting] That is how I heard it.

[Friedman] Then let me correct myself, if that is how it was perceived. The question is: How did you behave?

[Shamir] I will check the facts you presented.

[Frankel] Nevertheless, it seems that relations between the Likud and the Alignment have deteriorated. Likud Knesset members have called the foreign minister a traitor. What do you think about it?

[Shamir] First, I have not heard such remarks. Second, unfortunately the strained relations between the Alignment and the Likud are nothing new; they have existed for a long time. It was not the Likud that started using this tone and these expressions, and acting in a way that runs counter to the rules of a government. I have no desire to engage in polemics and mutual accusations at this time. I want to preserve this government as best I can, until the time we go to elections.

[Frankel] So you do not want early elections? You want to go on with this government until November?

[Shamir] I did not say that, but as long as this government exists I will try to ensure that it functions for the benefit of the state and its citizens. We will decide in due course about the timing of the elections, the issue of early elections, and our decision will be based solely on the relevant considerations which pertain to our national interests.

Shamir Says U.S. Wants 'Strong Israel'

TA101833 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1105 GMT 10 Mar 88

[Excerpt] This afternoon Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir met with settlers in Judaea, Samaria, and Gaza who are Herut Movement members. He told them that the political obstacle should be removed at once, but the most important thing is security.

According to Mr Shamir, if we succeed in effecting quiet and tranquility in the territories, we will face no political dangers. The prime minister emphasized that it was the unrest in the territories that tore open the political loophole. He added that it does no good to vilify the United States. The United States wants to see a strong Israel, but we must explain our position.

Upon leaving the meeting, the settlers said that they came to express support for the prime minister in anticipation of his departure for the United States. Shlomo Qatan, head of the Alfe Menashe local council, condemned the Jewish settlers' violent reactions in Ari'el and Hebron. [passage omitted]

Peres Interviewed on Peace Process

TA110629 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 11 Mar 88

[Interview with Vice Prime Minister Shim'on Peres by political correspondent 'Oded Ben-'Ami in Peres' residence and Arye Golan in the studio—live]

[Text] [Golan] Mr Peres, in a moment we will start talking about the prime minister's upcoming visit to Washington, but first, we have just marked 3 months of disturbances in the territories and the IDF has been unsuccessful in quelling them. Why?

[Peres] It is very difficult to end this kind of disturbance by military measures alone. It is not the usual kind of thing an army must deal with. We have already said, and I continue to say, that the only way to overcome is through political negotiations.

[Golan] The Likud says that it is precisely the talk of launching political negotiations and making concessions that encourages the rioters, agitators and those who throw the Molotov cocktails. What is your reaction to this?

[Peres] The Likud is trying to scare the Israeli public and to frighten and silence me by calling me names that are unacceptable in any civilized society. Let me answer, however, the question regarding concessions: Let us say that I want to forgo the annexation of 1 and 1/2 million Arabs to Israel. What kind of concession does this amount to?

I want to understand this. Should I call for the annexation of all the Arabs and should we become a binational state, simply to prove that we do not give in to pressure? Does my behavior amount to a surrender to pressure? We must decide what we want. We cannot continue playing on emotions all the time. I want to overcome the danger of Israel ceasing to be a Jewish state.

[Ben-'Ami] Mr Peres, are you surprised that a delegation of Jordan Valley settlers will be among the delegations to visit the prime minister today? Is it not sufficiently clear that we will not give up the Jordan line as our border?

[Peres] The present problem is not maps or lines, nor is it pressure from Washington. We have dilemmas here in Jerusalem. The first question to be asked is not what is being said in the Jordan Valley or in the Galilee, but rather what we ourselves want, what is good for the Jews: Is it good or bad for the Jews to endanger themselves by a potential majority of non-Jews in Israel?

Do we or do we not want to speak about peace once and for all? And I am not referring to a Lebanon-style peace but to a peace based on direct negotiations. The problem is therefore not one of delegations or pressures, but of decisions which are being made in Jerusalem.

[Golan] According to an interview with Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir in this morning's HA'ARETZ, next week Jerusalem is going to tell Washington that the only word to which he agrees in the U.S. plan is the name Shultz.

[Peres] There is a danger that Shamir's interlocutors will tell him that the only word they agree to is Shamir. The question is whether we are interested in U.S. involvement or not. The Americans are not imposing anything on us. First, as you know, there are two opinions in Jerusalem and both are legitimate. Neither Mr Sharon nor Mr Moda'i can give out grades, not for integrity nor for sound judgment. There are two equally balanced opinions, and Mr Shamir has to decide whether he is going to present only half the picture.

In my opinion, he should have tried to attain one position. I have the impression that the United States can continue to exist even without intensive involvement in our problem. Our problem is that we need U.S. aid both for purposes of defense and of peace. We need U.S. weapons for our security and U.S. diplomacy for peace. It does not make sense to go to Washington to say:

You cannot scare me; you cannot exert any pressure on me. Who is scaring here, who is pressuring? The problem is what we want, not what they want.

[Ben-'Ami] We have heard, Mr Peres, that both the secretary of state and the heads of the Congress Appropriations Committee have said they will not use the aid issue to pressure Israel.

[Peres] Certainly not. They do not have to apply any pressure. If they stop handling the political issue, Israel will be left without any option for peace. What pressure must they use?

[Golan] Mr Peres, if no pressure is to be used by the Americans, perhaps Mr Shamir assessed the situation correctly and perhaps he can convince President Reagan and Shultz to forgo or change their peace initiative, making it fit what Mr Shamir is willing to accept.

[Peres] I wish this were so, but it is unrealistic. The same letter was handed both to the Arabs and to us. This means that if Shultz makes changes, he will have to make changes for all the sides. Mr Shultz has presented the plan as a package deal, and it is no use harboring any illusions about this.

Mr Shultz' letter does not state any conditions regarding the territories. But let me reiterate that the problem is not U.S. pressure, but whether we want a peace process or whether we want to remain with the problems as they are today, alone, without any help.

[Ben-'Ami] Mr Peres, you probably understand and realize that Mr Shamir also wants to bring peace to this country. Can you not understand, for example, his fear concerning that part of the Shultz document which says that the international conference will be attended by all the sides. Perhaps one of those sides is the PLO, whereas Shamir unequivocally rejects PLO participation?

[Golan] Shultz' letter also does not mention direct talks and a peace treaty.

[Peres] Shamir is waking up very late. The term sides is also included in the Camp David agreements, not only in the Shultz document. The term sides is also included in UN Resolution 338. The Americans have explained that the Palestinian side is called a side rather than a state, and they continue to oppose the PLO.

There are certain clear things which must be understood. Concerning the issue of direct negotiations, the Americans sent a letter of explanation to Mr Shamir—and also expressed this orally to me only 2 days ago—in which they said that bilateral negotiations amount to direct negotiations and that this is the purpose of the international opening, and anything else is inconceivable.

[Ben-'Ami] If the differences of opinion are so profound, why do we not do what Deputy Prime Minister David Levi suggested during the last Inner Cabinet session: unite behind the only thing which we agree on, i.e., early elections, in which case the public can decide the issue. Why should we not do this already now?

[Peres] Look, you can agree or disagree with David Levi, but I have this to say for him: He is almost the only one—some people have not yet spoken—who is behaving in a dignified manner and is speaking truthfully. I disagree with him and he disagrees with me, but this is disagreement between responsible people. On the other hand, there are people who instead of arguing try to scare, slander, and frighten...

[Ben-'Ami, interrupting] Are you referring to Mr Sharon?

[Peres] Not only him; there are others, even in the Prime Minister's Office. Let us drop this; it not the issue. In my opinion, we must choose one of the two—and this is the basis of the national unity government. Either we sit down together, work hard, and find a joint formula, as I did on the Tabah issue and also concerning the withdrawal from Lebanon. [no second option as heard] Mr Shamir was greatly concerned and said, as did other Likud ministers, that we are surrendering.

We sat down and patiently searched for solutions in the case of Lebanon, Tabah, the settlements, and so on. In this case, for some reason, one party thinks it can scare or overwhelm half the nation, but this is completely impossible and all the slander will not impress anyone. There are regimes in which people use scare tactics instead of arguing their case.

[Golan] Finally, Mr Peres, I want to ask you whether you wish Mr Shamir success in his trip to Washington?

[Peres] Certainly. The only question is: What is this success? If peace negotiations are launched, then I consider this a success. If this possibility is lost, this will amount to failure. Therefore, when I wish success it is not a personal matter. Let me reiterate that I pray that a crack—not to mention a door—is opened, and that we will not be left in this atmosphere which constitutes a dead end and which will leave us fighting forever.

I completely disagree with Mr Shamir's statement that we can reach peace without giving up any territory. How is this possible? With whom will we make such peace? If peace was a matter between Jews only, then I would have understood this.

Moda'i Accuses Peres of 'Conspiracy' With Husayn

*TA101818 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew
1500 GMT 10 Mar 88*

[Text] Minister Yitzhaq Moda'i has given Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres a new derogatory name: conspirator. Moda'i presented reporters with the London document which had been co-signed or agreed on by Peres and Husayn. He said: The paper presented to the Inner Cabinet was not the original document. Our correspondent Dov Gilhar heard Moda'i:

[Begin recording] [Gilhar] In today's meeting with party affairs correspondents, Minister Yitzhaq Moda'i drew from his coat pocket the Peres-Husayn paper and read a few choice excerpts from this document, which was marked confidential on its top and bottom. This is the document Peres and Husayn signed in a clandestine meeting in London. There was a conspiracy here, stated Moda'i. Peres and Husayn sat there and planned to present it in Israel as a U.S. proposal.

[Moda'i] It was to be presented as a commitment [last word in English] the Jordanian Government made to the United States, and relayed to the Israeli Cabinet. If this is not a conspiracy, then I do not know what one is. Israel's foreign minister sits there saying:

You should present that part I accepted as a U.S. Administration proposal; the other thing I accepted you should submit on your own behalf, but noting U.S. consent to it; also, everything you submit shall be brought before the Israeli Government for approval. If an Israeli foreign minister... [break in relay of Moda'i's address]

[Gilhar] Yitzhaq Moda'i told his audience that the Inner Cabinet was presented with a document different from the one that had actually been signed, yet the paper given to the Cabinet was presented as the genuine Peres-Husayn document. The document presented to the Cabinet did not include the opening clause which deals with the fact that the document is to be presented as a U.S. proposal. Moda'i used neither the word forgery nor the word misleading.

[Moda'i] I read the introduction to you. Do you know why? Because how can he present it to the Israeli Cabinet with this introduction? For him to agree to submit the document—how is it possible?

[Gilhar] We must point out that the Peres-Husayn document was never debated—neither in the Cabinet nor in the Inner Cabinet; neither in its full version nor in the abridged version which Moda'i alleges was the one that had been presented.

The foreign minister's office reacted by saying that this is what happens when a man like that is allowed to deal with such sensitive issues. The man is not worthy of our reaction, they said. [end recording]

Rabin Sees U.S. Plan as 'Bridge' Between Demands

TA101939 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 10 Mar 88

[Text] Defense Minister Rabin told the Labor Party's foreign affairs and defense committee today that the American peace initiative is an attempt by Secretary of State George Shultz to build a bridge between the central demands of Israel and those of Jordan.

Meanwhile, Cabinet Secretary Elyaqim Rubinstein, also speaking in Tel Aviv, said the initiative is the result of the violence in the territories, though, he said, the two must be dealt with separately. More from Sabra Chartrand in Tel Aviv:

[Begin recording] If the Shultz initiative had been presented 6 months ago, before the riots in the territories began, Rabin said, I would have accepted it without reservation. I would not, he said, see its agenda as being too tight.

Rabin's support for the Shultz timetable contrasted with the opinion of Cabinet Secretary Elyaqim Rubinstein, who addressed the Bar Ilan presidents club in Tel Aviv today. We want negotiations on an interim and permanent solution, Rubinstein said, but the Americans want this to begin too quickly for some. The international peace conference in the Shultz initiative is not an opening, Rubinstein said, but a conference to which the United Nations secretary general will invite participants. They won't be able to impose a veto perhaps, he said, but they will be able to reject plans raised in the forum. The initiative, Rubinstein said, is the result of the riots in the territories, and we must separate the two.

Rabin, however, insisted that the Shultz plan is the most concrete formula for peace raised since 1982. The key to its success is a positive answer from Jordan and Israel. Then the other participants will agree. Even if Syria says no, Rabin said, in such circumstances they will at least not interfere with Jordan participating in an international peace conference.

Both men, however, were in total agreement over the Palestine Liberation Organization. The initiative, Rabin said, excludes the PLO for three reasons: It speaks of a Palestinian-Jordanian delegation, acceptance of United Nations Resolutions 242 and 338, and the renouncement of terror. The raison d'etre of the PLO, Rubinstein said, is to reject these same three factors. [end recording]

IDF General Reports Combat Volunteers Increasing

TA050850 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0800 GMT 5 Mar 88

[Text] Major General Matan Vilna'i, head of the IDF Manpower Branch, says that there has been a constant increase in the number of volunteers for combat units. According to him, even among those who were recruited during February, under the influence of recent events in the territories, there was a sharp rise in the number of volunteers. Their number was so high that it was necessary to send many of them to other units.

Maj Gen Vilna'i told our military affairs correspondent Karmela Menashe that reservists will spend more time than planned in the territories in the upcoming year; more time will also be spent in operational activity. Stating that although the training of regular soldiers has suffered, he added that the IDF knows how deal with this. He noted at the same time that the events in the territories will harm the welfare of the soldiers, because the activity in the territories calls for broad deployment over a long period of time. Maj Gen Vilna'i says that the party having more internal strength and patience will win in this struggle, and he has no doubt that we will be the winners.

Reacting to criticism directed at the IDF, Maj Gen Vilna'i said this was contentious criticism aimed at a target beyond the army. Those who criticize have taken things out of proportion and are using the IDF, causing more harm than good, he said. He suggests that those who want to criticize government policy should not do so by attacking the IDF.

Administrative Detentions, Call No 10 Reported

TA101826 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1705 GMT 10 Mar 88

[Report by Moti Amir]

[Text] Compared to yesterday, today was quiet in the territories. The IDF uprooted four rows of trees near the village of Silat al-Harithiyah, which lies on both sides of the Janin-Megiddo road. Military sources reported that the trees had provided cover for people who threw Molotov cocktails and stones at passing vehicles, as a result of which two Israeli buses transporting workers were burned.

The town was blockaded and the security forces detained approximately 50 local agitators. Olive grove owners who reside in the town pointed out that these are 80-year-old trees. Yet, this time the result of the stone and Molotov cocktail attacks was undoubtedly economic difficulties for the local residents.

It was reported today that another three Judaea and Samaria residents have been placed under administrative detention. They are Ghassan Ayyub, Muhammad Jadid, and Rifi al-'Arusi, who works for the DEREKH HANITZOTZ [THE PATH OF THE SPARK] publication which was closed by an edict issued by the Interior Ministry official in charge of the Jerusalem District.

Arab sources reported the distribution of Call No 10 today. It calls on the inhabitants of the territories to identify with the individuals placed under administrative detention, hold general strikes, and mark the anniversary of the battle in Al-Karamah by clashing with the security forces. This pamphlet includes an extraordinary clause which states that the call for the resignation of civil servants issued in Pamphlet No 9 was primarily aimed at police staffers.

More on Call for Resignations

TA110542 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 11 Mar 88

[Text] A new leaflet by pro-PLO supporters calls, for the first time, for Jordanian parliamentarians living in the territories to resign. The leaflet also calls for attacks on supporters of Jordan. Steve Rodan reports that the leaflet is the latest threat on those supporters of Jordan:

As the Arab unrest enters its 4th month, it has become clear that Israel has not been the only target of Palestinian activists. Jordan and its supporters in the territories have received threats constantly. Take the leaflet distributed by PLO activists yesterday in the territories. It calls on all Jordanian parliamentarians appointed by King Husayn to resign. Otherwise, the leaflet warns, they won't have a place among our people.

The leaflet also urges that such warnings be repeated in mosques around the territories. The result is that most Palestinians regarded as supportive of Jordan have maintained a low profile. Several parliamentarians are now in Amman, and at least one of them plans to stay there for a long period.

The pressure by the PLO supporters has been especially harsh on the East Jerusalem daily AL-NAHAR. Distribution is down in many parts of the administered territories, because carriers are afraid of retaliation by anti-Jordanian activists. Advertising is also off, but no more than it is for all the East Jerusalem dailies, who are sustaining heavy losses because of the commercial strike.

As one pro-Jordanian activist put it, the PLO thinks that we are its rivals, while we are actually trying to cooperate with it. The feeling among some of the pro-Jordanian activists is that the pressure on them will blow over if there is an international conference on the Middle East. The question is exactly when this will happen, and if.

Arab Policemen Resigning

TA111231 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1200 GMT 11 Mar 88

[Text] The Arab policemen in the Judaea Subdistrict have started to resign, responding to the call made in Pamphlet No 10 which was distributed in the territories. Voice of Israel in Arabic correspondent Ibrahim Shahid reports that out of 250 policemen, 60 resigned this morning. From time to time, additional policemen are entering the district commander's office to announce their resignation.

Al-Husayni Administrative Detention Extended

TA102006 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 10 Mar 88

[Text] The administrative detention of Faysal al-Husayni, the director of the Research Center for Arab Studies, was extended by an additional 3 months. He has been under detention for 6 months. Our correspondent says that the defense authorities suspect that Al-Husayni is an active PLO operative in the territories and that Jerusalem is the center of his activity.

At the moment, approximately 230 people are under administrative detention—200 in Judaea and Samaria, 30 in the Gaza Strip, and 10 in Jerusalem. [figures as heard] They will be under detention terms of up to 6 months.

Military Detaining 2,600 Palestinians

TA111246 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 11 Mar 88 p 2

[Text] The IDF is currently holding some 2,600 Palestinian demonstrators in its military prisons, an authoritative military source said yesterday. The number, which includes both those awaiting trial and those who have already been sentenced, is certain to grow, he said.

The source emphasized that the IDF would not allow a shortage of prison space to become a constraint on the methods used to handle the unrest in the West Bank and Gaza.

"When the riots started in December, we had to find room for a hundred and then 200," the source said. "The number kept on growing. We don't expect it to drop; it will get higher."

Settlers Establish All-Faction Committee

TA101640 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 10 Mar 88

[Text] A committee comprising representatives of all the factions was established in Qiryat Arba'. It is headed by Dov Li'or, the chief rabbi of Qiryat Arba'; its coordinator will be KAKH member Yosi Dayan. The settlers claim that the joint committee has been set up in order to counter what they claim is a trend toward minimizing Jewish control over Judaea and Samaria.

Major General 'Amram Mitzna', the commander of the Central Command, who toured Hebron this afternoon, said that although last night's events were admittedly fiercer than we have previously known, there was no room for the kind of exaggeration evinced by some of the settlers. The IDF reaches every place where riots occur and disperses the rioters, Mitzna' claimed.

Committee Meets

TA102026 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2000 GMT 10 Mar 88

[Text] Disturbances resumed in Hebron tonight. Arab residents erected barriers in several parts of the city and along the road connecting Qiryat Arba' with Hebron. Stones were thrown at the Jewish neighborhood of Khirbat al-Rumaythah. This was reported by Jewish residents to our correspondent Avshalom Ginosar. The residents said that the Army is present at all riot focal points. Great numbers of Qiryat Arba' and Hebron residents are now gathering in the Qiryat Arba' community center to discuss the security situation. They were summoned by the new all-faction committee established in Qiryat Arba'. At the beginning of the gathering, committee member Aharon Domb said that yesterday's riots in Hebron were a result of an organized plan on the part of the Arabs, and that they reflect a changed direction in Arab

Hebron Arabs Detained

TA110533 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 11 Mar 88

[Text] Violent disturbances were again reported in Hebron last night. Reporter Steve Rodan says Arabs threw stones at Khirbat al-Rumaythah and set up several roadblocks. Jewish residents removed the roadblocks and the Army arrived to maintain order. Ten Arabs were detained. Jewish residents also report that Arab-owned cars have disappeared from downtown Hebron in the wake of dozens of incidents where their cars have been vandalized.

Meanwhile, in Qiryat Arba' hundreds of residents gathered last night to review security in the area. The meeting was called by a new committee of citizens to ensure security for Jewish settlements, and headed by Dov Li'or, Qiryat Arba' chief rabbi. Also in Hebron, security forces destroyed the house of a suspected terrorist, 'Amar Ahmad Mahmud al-Qawasimi. He is being held for the murder of Yig'al Shahaf 5 months ago in Jerusalem's Old City.

Al-Shati' Resident Killed as Riot Dispersed

TA101745 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1729 GMT 10 Mar 88

[Text] We have just been informed that a resident of Al-Shati' Refugee Camp was shot in the chest and killed during a riot that jeopardized the lives of the IDF soldiers. Our correspondent Moti Amir reports that riots occurred when the curfew in the camp was temporarily lifted in order to allow the residents to stock up on food.

The IDF soldiers tried all the usual means to disperse the rioters, but when their lives were endangered, an officer shot and wounded one of the rioters. He was flown to Tel Hashomer Hospital.

'Hostile Incidents,' Arrests in Galilee 10 Mar

TA101849 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 10 Mar 88

[Text] Two more hostile incidents occurred in the Galilee today. Our correspondent Yo'el Dar reports that a Molotov cocktail was thrown on the road near the eastern entrance to the town of Ma'alot. The bottle ignited, but there were no casualties. Two youths from the village of Fassuta were detained. Earlier an Israeli car was stoned along the Misgav-Karmi'el road. Two Bedouin youths were detained.

Further Arrests

*TA111152 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English
1100 GMT 11 Mar 88*

[Text] A passenger on a bus traveling from Haifa to Tiberias was injured last night when stones were thrown as the vehicle passed near Shefar'am. Police arrested three Bedouin youths from the town on suspicion of being involved in the incident.

Jerusalem Area Disturbances Increase

*TA110554 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English
0500 GMT 11 Mar 88*

[Text] In the village of Jabal al-Mukabar on the outskirts of Jerusalem, a car belonging to a Jewish resident of the capital was set on fire. The car was only damaged lightly, but an increase in disturbances has taken place over the past few days in Jerusalem, and last night several incidents were reported in Arab neighborhoods. Today police will again deploy a large force at the Temple Mount to keep the peace after Friday prayers. Shlomo Berger reports:

Last night youths of the village of Shu'fat in north Jerusalem threw stones and blocked roads. Afterward, police swept through the village in search of agitators. There were also demonstrations in the neighborhood of 'Isawiyah, near the suburb of French Hill. But a serious new development took place yesterday in the southern suburb of Talpiyyot, when two Molotov cocktails were thrown at a Jewish home. There were no injuries or damage in the attack. Thirty-five Arabs were arrested for questioning.

Later, police found several firebombs in the Talpiyyot industrial zone and more suspects were detained. Police later beefed up their forces in the village of Jabal al-Mukabar and Sur Bahir, near Talpiyyot. A large police force will again be deployed at the Temple Mount today, in case of violence after Friday prayers. The mount has been relatively quiet recently, but activists have continued to call for demonstrations.

Temple Mount Prayers End Quietly 11 Mar

*TA111233 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1200 GMT 11 Mar 88*

[Text] The Friday prayers on the Temple Mount ended quietly today. Our police affairs correspondent Moshe Nussbaum reports that except for a march by approximately 200 worshippers who hoisted PLO flags and chanted nationalistic slogans the crowd of worshippers dispersed calmly and without any disturbances.

Security Forces Demolish 3 Houses in Biddiya

*TA110926 Jerusalem Domestic service in Hebrew
0900 GMT 11 Mar 88*

[Text] Last night the security forces demolished three houses belonging to residents of Biddiya, near Ramallah. These residents incited the population against a local resident, claiming he was cooperating with the Israeli authorities, and led the population in an attack on his house. The incident took place approximately 1 week ago.

Molotov cocktails were thrown at the house and gas cylinders were set on fire in order to burn down the house. An IDF unit saved the man and his family, but his house and all his belongings were burned. The security forces also detained 38 youths who participated in the attack.

TANJUG Reports 5 Mar Missile Attack in North

*LD111027 Belgrade TANJUG in English
1120 GMT 6 Mar 88*

[Text] Tel Aviv, March 6 (TANJUG)—Unidentified attackers fired six missiles on an Israeli village near Nahariyya, northern Israel, last night. One missile hit a house, wounding five persons.

No information on the incident has been given in Israel. The identity of the attackers is unknown, as is also the purpose of the attack.

The missiles were most likely fired from outside the so-called Security Zone in southern Lebanon, unilaterally proclaimed by Israel.

After its withdrawal from Lebanon in 1985, Israel occupied a strip, 20 kilometres or so wide, along Lebanon's southern border, where the so-called South Lebanon Army (SLA) helps it secure its own northern border.

Palestinians on Alert

*LD111031 Belgrade TANJUG in English
1505 GMT 6 Mar 88*

[Text] Beirut, March 6 (TANJUG)—State of emergency has been declared at Palestinian positions in the central part of the Lebanese Al-Biqa' Valley today, in anticipation of Israeli retaliation for yesterday's missile attack on a village in northern Israel in which five people were injured.

All Palestinian guerrillas and the anti-aircraft defence are in full battle readiness.

Responsibility for yesterday's attack on the Israeli village was claimed by the Lebanese Sunni Muslim organization "Islamic Movement in Palestine," whose guerrillas operate near the Lebanese port of Sidon.

The organization's statement issued in Sidon today said that three 122 mm-calibre rockets were fired from the Israeli occupation "security zone" in south Lebanon, hitting the village of Qiryat Shemona.

The Israeli military censorship yesterday did not allow the publication of any details on the attack. The name of the attacked village was not announced, or any details on the casualties.

King Husayn Returns From Damascus 10 Mar

JN101203 Amman Television Service in English 2000 GMT 10 Mar 88

[Excerpt] His majesty the king returned to Amman this evening at the end of a working visit to Damascus where he held talks with President Hafiz al-Asad of Syria. [passage omitted]

Reportage on Visit by Swedish Foreign Minister

Arrives 9 Mar

JN091607 Amman PETRA-JNA in Arabic 1440 GMT 9 Mar 88

[Text] Amman, 9 Mar (PETRA)—Swedish Foreign Minister Sten Anderson arrived in Amman this afternoon leading an official delegation on a 3-day visit to Jordan. The delegation accompanying the Swedish foreign minister comprises officials from the Swedish Foreign Ministry. During the visit, the Swedish foreign minister will meet with ranking Jordanian officials and hold talks with Foreign Minister Tahir al-Masri.

In a statement to PETRA, Sten Anderson said his visit to Amman will give him the opportunity to hold talks with Jordanian officials on developments in the region, ways to seek peaceful solutions to the problems the region is experiencing, and how to promote bilateral relations and cooperation. He said his country's relations with Jordan are excellent in all fields, stressing that there are many possibilities for expanding cooperation between the two countries.

The Swedish foreign minister said his country supports the efforts under way for a peaceful settlement of the Middle East problem and also supports the Palestinian Arab people's right to self-determination.

In reply to a question on Sweden's stand on the repressive measures the Israeli occupation authorities are carrying out against the Palestinians in the occupied territories, the Swedish foreign minister said: We denounce all that is taking place there and I have frankly said this to the Israeli officials.

Meets With Al-Rifa'i, Al-Masri

JN101345 Amman Domestic Service in English 1200 GMT 10 Mar 88

[Text] Prime Minister Zayd al-Rifa'i received at his office today visiting Swedish Foreign Minister Sten Anderson in the presence of Foreign Minister Tahir al-Masri. Talks during the meeting dealt with the latest developments in the Middle East and peace efforts in the area.

Mr al-Rifa'i reiterated that the international peace conference is the only means to reach a peaceful, comprehensive, and just settlement to the Middle East crisis. He also asserted the necessity to back current efforts for ending the Iraq-Iran war.

The Swedish foreign minister expressed his country's support for the Jordanian viewpoint concerning establishment of peace in the area through the convening of an international peace conference.

The foreign minister earlier headed talks with the visiting Swedish delegation led By Mr Anderson. The talks focused on bilateral cooperation between Jordan and Sweden, especially in the technical and trade fields. The two sides expressed satisfaction with the level of cooperation between the two countries.

The foreign minister reviewed current developments in the region in the wake of the popular uprising against occupation in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, which he said underlined the need to intensify efforts to bring about a just settlement to the Arab- Israeli conflict.

The foreign minister also explained Jordan's position toward efforts to bring about peace to the region. He reiterated the need to establish peace through the convening of an international peace conference to be held under the United Nations auspices and attended by the five permanent members of the Security Council and all parties concerned.

The Swedish foreign minister praised his majesty's peace endeavors and reiterated his country's support for the idea of an international Middle East peace conference. He indicated that his government will undertake a more active role toward this purpose in both the European and international arenas.

Leaves for Damascus 11 Mar

JN111301 Amman Domestic Service in English 1200 GMT 11 Mar 88

[Text] Swedish Foreign Minister Sten Anderson left Amman today ending a 2-day visit to Jordan, during which he met with His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hasan and the prime minister, Zayd al-Rifa'i. He also held talks with Foreign Minister Tahir al-Masri on developments and peace efforts in the Middle East as well as cooperation matters.

The Swedish foreign minister described his talks with the Jordanian officials as very useful. He flew in on a visit to Damascus this morning.

Shultz Plan 'Unique Historic Opportunity'

JN100745 Amman THE JERUSALEM STAR in English 10-16 Mar 88 p 20

[Editorial: "Shultz' Proposals]

[Text] The peace proposals which US Secretary of State George Shultz conveyed to Middle East leaders are worthy of proper and careful consideration because they represent the first serious American bid to acheive a balanced settlement in the region.

Among other things, the proposals respond favourably to Arab demands that peace negotiations are to take place within an international conference and that a solution should be based on Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338 which state the inadmissibility of acquisition of other people's territory by force.

Furthermore, Mr Shultz states that "the agreed objective is a comprehensive peace providing for the security of all the states in the region and for the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people."

Comprehensive peace, and not partial or separate solutions, should be the objective of any peace negotiations. The region has had enough suffering and confusion from repeated US attempts to lure this party or that into embarking on separate peace talks with Israel with the aim of sowing dissension among Arab states and undermining their capabilities to reach a balanced comprehensive settlement.

For their part the Arabs stand united in their demand for a comprehensive settlement which, above anything else, ensures complete Israeli withdrawal from the territories occupied in the June 1967 war and resolves all aspects of the Palestinian problem.

Consultations have already started amongst Arab capitals as well as the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) with a view to coming up with a common position towards the new US peace initiative. There is no doubt that Arab countries directly involved in the peace process will speak in unison both in their replies to Mr Shultz' proposals or at the negotiations table.

While the United States will be confronted with a common Arab stance which responds positively to every genuine peace effort, it still faces the intransigence of Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir and his Likud bloc. The US administration will have to exert tremendous efforts, including active pressure, to force Shamir to budge and abandon his adamant rejection of trading territory for peace.

Mr Shultz' proposals may offer a unique historic opportunity for the achievement of just peace in the Middle East after four decades of bloody devastating conflict. The United States still needs to pursue its peace endeavour forcibly and with strong determination so that such opportunity would not be wrecked on the rock of Israeli intransigence.

AL-RA'Y on King Husayn's Visit to Syria

JN110911 Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic 11 Mar 88 pp 1, 15

[Editorial: "An Active Move To Crystallize Unified Arab Action"]

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn's brief working visit to Damascus yesterday and his talks with His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad are a continuation of the active Jordanian move led by his majesty in the Arab arena. They are also a continuation of joint coordination, which aims to follow up the accelerating events in the region and emphasize the unified Arab stand toward them.

This being the case, it is natural that the U.S. move, the escalation of Israeli terrorism in the occupied territories, and the heroic resistance of our kinfolk there were the leading issues discussed by the two Arab leaders. Likewise, it is natural that Algerian President Bendjedid's call for an extraordinary Arab summit to support the uprising was a prominent topic discussed in these talks.

What calls for satisfaction and pride is the fact that adherence to a unified Arab stand, which is a result of the summit of reconciliation and accord, is now the cornerstone of the consultations and contacts being held in the Arab capitals.

This fact was confirmed in the meetings His Majesty King Husayn held in Baghdad, Kuwait, and Damascus. This fact will continue to exist in all his majesty's meetings in other Arab capitals.

Prior to the Amman summit, a unified Arab stand was an Arab aspiration. This aspiration has become a reality in most issues facing the Arab nation. There is no doubt that this positive development has granted the Arab stand strength in the international arena and is still one of the principal reasons for gaining further international support for the Arab cause.

It should be recalled that the heroic uprising in the occupied territories has increased the international community's conviction that Arabs still have all options. The uprising has also granted Arab political and diplomatic action a valuable weight in international forums.

Therefore, the strong support for the uprising that Jordan affirmed—moreover, the Algerian president called for an extraordinary Arab summit to continue backing it in the entire Arab arena—is not only a fulfillment of pan-Arab commitment but also support for Arab political and diplomatic action to revive the process of establishing a just and comprehensive peace in the region.

These facts, with all their dimensions, demonstrate the great importance of the Jordanian move, led by His Majesty Husayn, to crystallize unified Arab action that can face the challenges posed to the nation and proceed toward regaining the usurped Arab rights and establishing true peace in the region.

UK Ambassador Meets Al-Turk, Makes Statement

NC101842 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1630 GMT 10 Mar 88

[Text] Ambassador Fu'ad al-Turk, secretary general of the Foreign Ministry, today met with John Gray, Britan's Ambassador to Lebanon. They discussed the developments in Lebanon and in the region.

Ambassador Gray was accompanied by (Douglas Cranton), envoy of the British prime minister's office, who was introduced as an official working in the section attached to the prime minister's office in London.

Ambassador Gray described the situation in Lebanon as serious and said that there is some danger in all areas. He expressed his belief that it would have been better for British national Peter Coleridge not to have visited Sidon, adding that Coleridge was nevertheless lucky.

In response to a question, the British ambassador noted that there are regional and Lebanese developments that can influence the way in which the situation in Lebanon could develop during the coming months.

Oxfam Official Leaves Beirut for London

NC101240 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1130 GMT 10 Mar 88

[Text] Peter Coleridge, the British official in charge of Oxfam in the Middle East, left Beirut at noon today for London. Before his departure he said:

I am leaving Beirut following a profound experience. I am very happy because I will see my family tonight, and I will see all the friends in Britain. I must thank all the people in Lebanon and Mustafa Sa'd [leader of the Nasirite Popular Organization] for the positive results their efforts produced during the past week.

Asked whether he intends to return to work in Lebanon, he said: I hope that the incident which happened to me in 'Ayn al-Hulwah camp will not affect the foreign relief agencies, particularly Oxfam, which I represent. I hope that the incident will not affect the work of any institution in any field in Lebanon.

Regarding the treatment of the detainees, he said: I cannot speak in detail about everything that happened. All I want to say is that, in my case, it was not a kidnap operation. I was detained because I was taking photographs. I had been in 'Ayn al-Hulwah during the Israeli invasion in 1982 when the camp was mostly destroyed.

At that time I had taken photographs of the destruction. When I returned to the camp this time, I visited the same place and took photographs of the new buildings that have subsequently been constructed. This was so I could compare the camp as it is today with how it was after the invasion. The people who live in 'Ayn al-Hulwah must have security, and they must defend this security. The measures which were taken were necessary and correct.

Asked about his wishes for the foreign hostages in Lebanon, he said: The issue of my detention is somewhat different from that of the hostages. I hope that those who are holding the foreign hostages in Lebanon will understand that there is no reason for their continued detention and kidnapping.

Asked to comment on the British Government's request to British nationals to not go to Lebanon or use the Beirut Airport, he said: I am very happy that I am leaving Lebanon through Beirut International Airport. I advise all the colleagues in Oxfam and other foreign institutions and foreigners to use the Beirut International Airport because it is safe. I arrived at the airport without difficulty. I repeat that I am pleased.

Al-Husayni Views U.S. Role in Reconciliation

NC101440 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1400 GMT 10 Mar 88

[Text] Chamber of Deputies Speaker Husayn al-Husayni held a news conference today at 1400, following a meeting of joint parliamentary committees. He said he believes the U.S.-Syrian-Lebanese talks aimed at achieving national reconciliation are serious, and that we should accord them every chance to succeed.

He said that U.S. participation in this process prompts us to call on the United States to bring about the implementation of UN Resolution 425 in the south. He regarded the United States as the only entity among the participating international parties that has influence on Israel. He indicated that the achievement of national reconciliation would enhance our people's ability to resist occupation.

Speaker al-Husayni emphasized that the Lebanese issue should be resolved apart from the solution to the region's crisis. He said that Lebanon cannot tolerate any further delay in resolving its crisis. He remarked that the Chamber of Deputies should seize every opportunity to achieve reconciliation.

NLP's Sham'un: Mixed Views on U.S.-Syrian Talks

NC110719 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
0615 GMT 11 Mar 88

[Text] National Liberal Party leader Dany Sham'un has described the U.S.-Syrian discussions as a good thing. He says, however, that they do not constitute a development which "I appreciate as a Lebanese patriot."

In an interview with REUTER and Visnews, Sham'un added: These discussions remind me of a country under a foreign mandate, where foreign states make decisions in that country's name. He called for the withdrawal of the foreign forces from Lebanon, stressing that Lebanese decisions will be made by the Lebanese themselves.

He expressed his dislike for the situation whereby Lebanon would be under a Syrian and U.S. mandate. Sham'un added that it would be a mistake for the United States to accept a Syrian role in Lebanon.

The National Liberal Party leader reaffirmed his intention to continue supporting the South Lebanese Army. He added that he will seek to revive the Lebanese-Israeli truce agreement, and to normalize relations with the Jewish state within the framework of a Middle East peace conference.

U.S. Reportedly Took Imam Musa al-Sadr to Egypt

NC111256 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1215 GMT 11 Mar 88

[Text] The Voice of Lebanon has obtained information on the recent statements by Ayatollah Rohani concerning the Imam Musa al-Sadr and his possible reappearance in an Arab country.

According to Rohani's circles, reports indicate that Imam Musa al-Sadr was being held in Libyan when U.S. planes bombed some Libyan positions. A U.S. helicopter then moved Al-Sadr from Libya to a U.S. base and from there to Egypt.

The credibility of this information is questionable, however. According to informed sources, all that has been mentioned on this subject falls within the context of unsubstantiated conclusions.

Armenian Party Denounces 'Crimes' in Azerbaijan

NC091803 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1645 GMT 9 Mar 88

[Text] The higher council of the Dashnak Party today denounced the crimes perpetrated against the Armenian inhabitants of the Soviet Republic of Azerbaijan, particularily those in Sumgait, where the death toll has risen to about 1500. The council said that the Dashnak Party and the Armenian people will not turn a blind eye to the massacres perpetrated by Azerbaijan's Tartars.

The Armenians were justly demanding that Nagorno-Karabakh be restored to the Republic of Armenia. The Dashnak Higher Council said Nagorno-Karabakh was forcibly severed from Armenia and annexed to Azerbaijan in the 1920's.

Fatah Revolutionary Council Official Attacked

NC110759 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0745 GMT 11 Mar 88

[Text] An attempt was made yesterday on the life of Fatah Revolutionary Council official Muhammad al-Fahd. The incident occurred at the outskirts of 'Ayn al-Hulwah camp in Sidon. His aide, Khalid al-Sa'di, was seriously wounded and taken to Hammud Hospital in Sidon.

2 Palestinians, 1 Lebanese Kidnapped in South

NC092100 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 2045 GMT 9 Mar 88

[Text] According to a report from the south, Palestinians Ayman Hamid and Ghalib Hamid and Lebanese Muhammad Ahmad 'Allul were kidnapped today on the Sayniq Road south of Sidon. The kidnappers have yet to be identified.

Palestinian Camps Maintain 'State of Alert'

NC101748 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1730 GMT 10 Mar 88

[Text] A state of alert continued today in the Palestinian camps between Sidon and Tyre following Israeli threats to retaliate for the Negev operation. Sirens were sounded in the camps after Israeli military boats were sighted off the coast. Boats were also spotted in the same location last night.

A short time ago Israeli warplanes flew over Sidon, drawing antiaircraft fire. The Israeli flights coincided with clashes along the Kafr Falus-Lib'a-'Ayn al-Mir axis.

Reports of Resistance-Lahd Military Clashes

Lahd Vehicle Damaged by Mine

NC091820 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 9 Mar 88

[Text] A land mine was exploded as an agent Lahd militia patrol drove along the Al-Surayri-Mazra'at Shbayl road, damaging a vehicle and killing or wounding three of its occupants.

Meanwhile, an enemy force has stormed the Dallafah Town, searched most of its houses, and detained two old citizens for over 2 hours.

Also, warplanes and helicopters [not further identified] have flown over the central sector, dropping flares over a number of areas.

A force consisting of Israeli intelligence men and agents stormed the Dallafah town in western Al-Biqa'. They searched most of its houses under the pretext of looking for weapons and explosives. Following the withdrawal of the force, the town's inhabitants said the enemy force fired shots around the houses and then detained two old citizens.

According to information from the Hasbayya area, a mine planted near a position held by the Norwegian UNIFIL force, between Ibl al-Saqy and Al-Khiyam, exploded under farmer Nasib Mundhir, seriously wounding him. The Norwegian force gave him first aid and then transported him to Marj 'Uyun Hospital.

Resistance Burns Tank

NC101054 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1000 GMT 10 Mar 88

[Text] At dawn today, resistance fighters in the south attacked a Lahd militia position on Tallat 'Ali al-Tahir, east of Kafr Rumman, using rockets and automatic weapons. They also attacked a militia position in the Sfaray area, killing one Lahd militiaman.

According to reports from the eastern sector, the operation was carried out by the Martyrs Nidal al-Hasaniyah and Yusuf Barak Group. One tank was burned, which an occupation forces helicopter attempted to move. The occupation forces and their agents then used a bulldozer to remove the earth barrier in front of the burned tank, afterwhich another tank towed it toward the occupied Palestinian land.

Al-Khiyah 'Stormed'

NC110503 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 10 Mar 88

[Text] The Martyrs Zuhayr 'Awali, 'Ali al-Tini, and Tawfiq 'Ali Group of the Lebanese Resistance Groups-Amal last night attacked the Tuhrah position with automatic weapons and rockets. In the 40-minute attack barricades of the position were destroyed. Another group later bombarded the positions of Tuhrah and (Al-Bishki) with mortars. Meanwhile, enemy artillery pounded Kafr Rumman and its environs with mortars for 90 minutes.

In a similar development, resistance fighters scored direct hits with mortars in an attack on the agent militia position in Jabal Safi. Agent Lahd's radio admitted the attack, and said that the militia had retaliated.

Resistance fighters used automatic weapons and rockets to attacked at dawn an agent patrol on the Sfaray-Rum road. Samir Haris, a member of the patrol, was killed. Simultaneously, resistance fighters shelled a position held by Lahd militia on the hills of Kafr Rumman. They also detonated an explosive device while an agents' motorized patrol was passing on the Buslayya road. The agents' radio admitted all three operations and the death of one of their members.

According to an NNA report from Hasbayya, enemy forces found a Grad rocket during a search in the southeastern side of Shab'a, which is under the control of the Norwegian UNIFIL contingent. The rocket was aimed at the Israeli observation post on the western side of Mount Hermon; this post overlooks the eastern sector.

Meanwhile, for the second time in a week, Israeli enemy forces this morning stormed the town of Al-Khiyam. They searched a number of houses and arrested a number of citizens. Another force searched Tallat al-Khiyam, Al-Dardarah Plain, Al-Jamarik, and Al-Majidiyah-al-Mari road. The search lasted 5 hours.

'Ayn al-Khawkh Attacked

NC111242 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 11 Mar 88

[Text] At 0500 today the Martyr Kamal Sulayti group ofthe Lebanese Resistance Brigades—Amal attacked the 'Ayn al-Khawkh position held by the agent Lahd militia. The group used rockets and heavy-caliber machineguns. The ramparts and fortifications of the post were blown up, and after a 30-minute clash the resistance fighters overran the position and occupied it.

Meanwhile, the Lebanese Resistance Brigades' artillery unit shelled the Taw'amat Niha position, using 82-mm mortars. Direct hits were scored and the enemy suffered a number of killed or wounded. A track vehicle, a truck, and sleeping quarters were destroyed.

A second Lebanese Resistance Brigades group planted an explosive device on the 'Alman road at 0500 today. The device was detonated as an Israeli enemy patrol was passing along the road. A vehicle was destroyed and its passengers killed or wounded. Ambulances sped to the area to remove the casualties. The occupation forces subsequently raked the surrounding area, using rockets and automatic weapons.

Reportage on Visit by Jordan's King Husayn

Arrives for 'Working Visit'

JN101243 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 10 Mar 88

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn, king of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, arrived in Damascus at 1300 today on a working visit to Syria. President Hafiz al-Asad was at the head of those who received him at the airport.

Vice Presidents 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam and Muhammad Zuhayr Mashariqah, Prime Minister Mahmud al-Zu'bi, Deputy Prime Ministers Mahmud Qaddur and Dr Salim Yasin, the ministers, and the Jordanian ambassador in Damascus also welcomed the king at the plane's ramp.

His majesty the king and the president then left in an official motorcade to the presidential palace where they held a meeting that was attended on the Syrian side by Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, Prime Minister Mahmud al-Zu'bi, and Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar', and for the Jordanian side by Prime Minister Zayd al-Rifa'i, Royal Court Chief Marwan al-Qasim, Court Minister 'Adnan Abu 'Awdah, and the Jordanian ambassador in Damascus.

Begins Talks

JN101749 Amman Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 10 Mar 88

[Text] Talks between His Majesty King Husayn and Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad began at the presidential palace in Damascus this afternoon. The talks were attended on the Jordanian side by Prime Minister Zayd al-Rifa'i, Chief of the Hashemite Royal Court Marwan al-Qasim, Court Minister 'Adnan Abu 'Awdah, and Jordan's ambassador in Damascus.

On the Syrian side, the talks were attended by Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, Prime Minister Mahmud al-Zu'bi, and Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar'.

His majesty's talks with Syrian leader Hafiz al-Asad were expected to deal with the urgent Arab issues, particularly the latest developments in the area following the popular uprising in the occupied Arab territories, and bilateral relations.

Holds 'Closed' Meeting

JN101911 Damascus Television Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 10 Mar 88

[Text] At 1700 today, President Hafiz al-Asad and King Husayn held a closed meeting. Talks centered on the situation and developments in the region in light of our people's uprising against the Israeli occupation in the occupied territories, as well as on the importance of bolstering the steadfastness of the kinfolk, supporting the uprising, and providing requirements for its continuation. Various aspects of the Arab situation were also reviewed.

'Text' of Al-Qadhdhafi Cable to Al-Asad

JN101802 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 10 Mar 88

["Text" of cable from Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the 1 September Revolution in Libya, to President Hafiz al-Asad on the 25th anniversary of the 8 March Revolution; date not given]

[Text] I warmly congratulate you on the Syrian Arab people's celebration of the anniversary of the revolution, wishing you continued health and happiness and the Arab people in sisterly Syria progress and prosperity.

I hope comprehensive unity will be achieved by the next anniversary to confront our Arab nation's enemies represented by imperialism and Zionism which try to achieve their objectives and plots by drawing up expansionist plans in our greater Arab homeland.

These exposed plans and premeditated intentions have been exposed by the uprising of our Arab people in the occupied territories which forced them to retreat in disgrace before the world's people who embraced us with their sympathy and support and isolated imperialism and zionism. This increases my conviction in the inevitability of victory over the forces of evil and arrogance.

Honor belongs to God. Glory and immortality and continuous revolutionary struggle to our Arab nation.

Al-Zu'bi Receives Palestinian Delegation 9 Mar

JN091703 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1430 GMT 9 Mar 88

[Text] Damascus, 9 Mar (SANA)—Prime Minister Mahmud al-Zu'bi received a Palestinian delegation here today.

The delegation comprises Khalid al-Fahum, [former] PNC speaker and PNSF leader; Muhammad Khalifah, Ba'th Party National command member and PLO Executive Committee member; 'Isam al-Qadi, secretary of the Al-Sa'iqah Forces; Talal Naji, assistant secretary general of the PFLP-GC; 'Abd al-Muhsin Abu Mayzar, PNSF Command member; Abu Musa [Sa'id Musa Muraghah], secretary of the Fatah Provisional Command—the Uprising; and 'Umar al-Shihabi, member of the PFLP-GC Political Bureau.

Talks during the meeting dealt with a number of issues, regional and Arab developments, particularly the uprising in the occupied territory and ways to reinforce it in confronting the imperialist and Zionist moves.

Al-Fahum and the delegation members expressed their pride and appreciaiton for Syria's pan-Arab stands on the central issue of the nation and the Palestine question under President Hafiz al-Asad.

They also praised the national and pan-Arab achievements and gains attained under the 8 March Revolution led by President Hafiz al-Asad and affirmed the depth of Syrian-Palestinain cohesion in confronting the capitulatory plans and schemes.

Commentary on Attempts To 'Lure' Arabs to Talks

JN101703 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
1238 GMT 10 Mar 88

[Station commentary]

[Text] There's something afoot in the West regarding the Mideast. George Shultz brought ideas of the U.S. Administration to the region and urged that the chance of a lifetime be seized.

Israel's Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir in the meantime turned down the ideas of his strategic ally and benefactor—the United States—and kept his government from committing itself on the American ideas prior to his Washington trip to present his blueprint.

Ahead of his visit, Shamir has repeated his refusal to go along with the will of the international community and UN resolutions. He has rejected outright an Israeli withdrawal from the occupied Arab land on the plea that it is Israel's on the strength of myths and fairy tales and refused to recognize any rights for the Palestinian Arab people, including a Palestinian state.

Israel's Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres, portrayed by certain Western political circles as a moderate dove and a proponent of peace negotiations, expressed opposition to Shamir's ideas in terms that fully illustrated his own thinking.

He is against a return to the pre-1967 war situation—in other words, against Israel's pullout from the conquered territory, the Palestinian state, that is, against the Palestinian people's right to self-determination and to choose their representatives and against relinquishment of occupied Jerusalem.

In effect, Peres is opposed to the UN General Assembly resolutions on Jerusalem and Security Council resolutions on an Israeli evacuation of all the territories Israel conquered in 1967.

The uprising has proved too hard a nut for Israel to crack—sweet-tongued rhetoric or Henry Kissinger's immoral advice to resort to its brutal suppression notwithstanding. If it were not for the self-sustaining momentum of the uprising, the West would not have moved a bit. By the West we mean the United States, Israel, and all of the anti-Palestinian, anti-Arab camp.

Western moves, however, do not seek to establish a just peace or an overall settlement, despite all the rhetoric and slogans in which the United States clothed its ideas and proposals.

Rather, they seek to maneuver, mislead, trick, and win time with a view to bringing about favorable circumstances to put down the popular uprising, consolidate Israeli occupation, and lure the Arabs, using such glittering, impressive slogans as an international conference and legitimate Palestinian rights, to capitulationist negotiations where Israel would take on the Arab parties one at a time and endg up with Israel achieving what it has failed to do in five aggressive wars.

The inferior, unsought-after Israeli-American goods that have been on the market before and since Camp David will not sell any better when they are peddled by Secretary Shultz or embellished by such titles as an international conference or Palestinian legitimate rights.

Promoting the Camp David line—the approach of partial, piecemeal solutions, splitting Arab ranks, and giving the aggressor rewards beautifully wrapped in slogans palatable to world public opinion—is a no-win style typical of dishonest door-to-door salesmen.

If an international conference is to devise a just, comprehensive peace, it must be an effective, authoritative exercise bound by UN resolutions—at any rate, those passed by the five permanent members of the Security Council, including the General Assembly resolution calling for an independent Palestinian state, and the resolutions calling for Israeli evacuation of all the occupied land. Otherwise, an international conference would amount to little more than a gateway for Arab capitulation to Israeli aggressors, entrenchment of injustice, and acquiescence to the injustice by the aggrieved party.

There are no such things as legitimate and illegitimate rights. The national rights of any people do not permit controversy and divisions. Conditional, truncated recognition of such rights is a denial of them. What will there be to negotiate if an international conference is not to address a total Israeli withdrawal from the occupied Arab land and the inalienable, legitimate Palestinian rights?

The West wants to talk to the Arabs about rights they already have rather than a return of their land and rights. Negotiations on these lines are unacceptable, as was made clear by President Hafiz al-Asad the day before yesterday.

Afghanistan

Politburo Discusses Islamic Studies, Youth

LD102112 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari
1600 GMT 10 Mar 88

[Text] A regular session of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo was held today. On the basis of the policy of national reconciliation and the implementation of the party's policy concerning the observance, respect, and safeguarding of the sacred religion of Islam, the PDPA Central Committee Politburo discussed the further strengthening and development of education and research on Islamic principles and bases, and the futher training of professional and scientific cadres in the fields of Islamic science, law, judicial system, and the Arabic language in the Republic of Afghanistan.

[Words indistinct] the Politburo considered the establishment of a university for the study of and research into Islamic science, and pointed out that the university should be created within the framework of the Ministry of Higher and Vocational Education and based on the Faculty of Theology and the Center for the Research of Islamic Science.

Therefore, the recommendation was made to the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Afghanistan to strengthen the university system for the study and research of Islamic science. Instructions were also issued to other authorities regarding the establishment of universities including the above university system.

The Politburo also assessed the patriotic military training of youths under the national reconciliation policy and pointed out that, despite patriotic military training, there are still serious defects and shortcomings. The military commissariats are not actively participating in patriotic military training.

The Politburo assessed the role of DYOA committees and organizations in patriotic military training as weak and criticized the activities of party committees of the Ministry of Higher and Vocational Education and the Ministry of Education and Training, as well as the work carried out by the mass media in this area. The Politburo endorsed a resolution in this respect aimed at improving these matters.

The PDPA Central Committee Politburo also considered the conscription of activists and professional personnel of the PDPA, social organizations, publication organs of the PDPA, and government activists-members of the PDPA who are registered for military service or reserve service. The Politburo made the necessary decisions in these matters.

The Politburo also discussed the strengthening of political and party leadership in the DYOA and enhancing the role of party committees and organizations in the DYOA. The Politburo pointed out that not all young people can yet obtain the desired proficiency in their work. Not enough attention is being given to the positive work of children. Many peasant youths have not yet received land; they do not know the purpose of the new agrarian policy and have not benefited from it.

The Ministry of Education and Training, the Ministry of Higher and Vocational Education, and the Ministry of Vocational and Technical Education do not pay the necessary attention to training pupils and students, increasing the number of students, and providing facilities for children from poor families and the children of martyrs.

The DYOA committees do not fully use the means available in order to increase their influence on young people and explain the needed tasks to the citizens. They do not carry out the task of political organization in the specified manner and they do not look after the demands made by young people.

The Politburo noted that there are serious defects in the work of party committees regarding young people. Many PDPA committees do not yet perceive their serious responsibility in working with young people and they have distanced themselves from the work and activities of the DYOA committees and organizations. They are not aware of young people's problems.

The Politburo endorsed a number of immediate measures aimed at improving the work with young people, strengthening the political and party leadership in the DYOA, and enhancing the role of party committees and organizations in the DYOA.

The Politburo also considered the preparations for elections to the National Assembly of the Republic of Afghanistan and issued a series of instructions to the relevant organs.

The PDPA Central Committee Politburo also discussed the strengthening of party and political work among Afghan students abroad, and issued specific instructions to the relevant organs about better organizing the selection of students for study outside the country, strengthening party and political work among the students, and solving problems regarding their studies.

The Politburo also assessed a report on the recent visit of the Afghan delegation, led by 'Abdul Wakil, member of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo and minister of foreign affairs, to Kuwait, Libya, Syria, and Jordan.

In this connection, the PDPA Central Committee Politburo pointed out that these visits to a number of Arab countries prior to the Geneva talks and the convening of the Islamic countries foreign ministers' meeting are considered important in light of the statement made by Esteemed Najibullah, general secretary of the PDPA

Central Committee and president of the Republic of Afghanistan, and the statement made by M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee.

The Politburo assessed the results of these visits as positive for broadening political contacts, explaining the country's peaceful intentions and measures and its national and international stands under national reconciliation and the peace process.

The Politburo issued a number of instructions to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs regarding the activation of reciprocal diplomatic relations with Kuwait, Jordan, and Syria, as well as other Muslim and nonaligned countries including Arab countries.

The PDPA Central Committee Politburo also discussed other national and international issues.

Tashkent Delegation Arrives in Samagan Province

LD110658 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0457 GMT 11 Mar 88

[Text] Kabul, March 10, BAKHTAR—On the basis of protocol of direct links of technical, cultural and economic cooperations between Samangan Province and Tashkent city of Uzbek SSR a group of specialists, engineers and physicians from that republic arrived in Samangan Province today, a BAKHTAR correspondent reports from that province.

During its stay in Samangan the Soviet group will assist the Afghan side in the erection of Samangan-Tashkent Friendship Garden, installation of automatic telephone apparatus in Samangan Province as well as in the sphere of public health.

Bangladesh

Ershad Discusses Post-Election Programs

BK101316 Dhaka Overseas Service in English 1230 GMT 10 Mar 88

[Text] The Bangladesh president has announced an eight-point post-election objective of his government to visualize the hopes and aspirations of the people.

Addressing the annual conference of Bangladesh Chemical Society in Dhaka, President Ershad said the parliament election was held very smoothly and the people demonstrated their political consciousness through the ballot. They have given their verdict in favor of democracy and development.

He gave an outline of his government's development objectives. These are achievement of self-reliance in all fields within the shortest possible time, creation of job opportunities for all educated unemployed, increase in exports, dropping of unnecessary projects, establishment of an efficient, honest and effective administration, campaign against corruption, production and [words indistinct] oriented politics, and further strengthening of the population control program.

President Ershad said the people have categorically rejected the politics of terrorism, indiscipline, anarchy, unrest, and destruction.

The president urged the people of all strata to extend their cooperation to achieve this objective to attain overall development and ensure welfare of the people.

Sheikh Hasina Vows To Continue Struggle

BK101458 Dhaka THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 8 Mar 88 pp 1, 8

[Excerpt] The chief of Bangladesh Awami League and leader of Eight-Party Alliance, Sheikh Hasina, reiterated that the relentless struggle will continue till the fall of the present Government.

Addressing a rally of Eight-Party Alliance in front of Awami League office, at Bangabandhu Avenue in observance of historic March 7, she said that the historic speech of Bangabandhu [Sheikh Mujibur Rahman] had prompted us to fight against the then Pakistani rulers for achieving the freedom through a bloody revolution.

Sheikh Hasina deplored that the fruits of independence did not reach the people as yet. She remarked that with the assassination of Bangabandhu in 1975, the tyrannical rule had been continuing in the country since then.

The rally was addressed, among others, by BAKSAL [Bangladesh Awami Krisak Sramik Awami League] Secretary-General Abdur Razzak, Al-Haj Abdus Samad, Mr. Dilip Barua, Mr. Amir Hussain Amu, Mr. Saifuddin Ahmed Manik, Chowdhury Harunar-Rashid and advocate S.M. Nurul Alam.

Referring to the Jatiya Sangsad [Parliament] polls of March 2, Sheikh Hasina said that the people responded to the call of the Opposition Alliance and they did not go to the polling stations.

The Eight-Party Alliance leader expressed her gratitude to teachers, journalists and members of other professional groups for their protest against the autocratic rule. She praised the journalists for their courageous role in observing one day strike.

She said that the present Government is misleading the people in the name of Islam.

Sheikh Hasina observed that Government had already destroyed the political institutions in the country. The economy of the country has been shattered and the people are now hard hit following soaring prices of essentials, she added. Sheikh Hasina accused the present Government saying that it had established the 'killers of Bangabandhu'. [passage omitted]

Special Tribunal Sentences 27 Thai Fishermen

OW110147 Tokyo KYODO in English 0044 GMT 11 Mar 88

[Text] Dhaka, March 11 KYODO—Twenty-seven Thai nationals were sentenced to five years of rigorous imprisonment for intrusion and illegal fishing into Bangladesh's territorial waters, the official BSS news agency said Thursday.

The 27, all fishermen, were sentenced recently by a special tribunal in the Bagerhat District of southwestern Bangladesh, which also ordered all their belongings to be confiscated, it said.

The fishermen entered into Bangladesh waters in a trawler in February last year and were arrested while fishing illegally in the Bay of Bengal near Hiron Point adjoining Sundarban Forest, prosecutors said.

Members of the law-enforcing agencies confiscated a large quantity of fishing gear and a sizable catch, they said.

The fishermen had been in Bagerhat jail for a year awaiting trial.

It is believed to be the first time that a large number of foreign nationals have been jailed in Bangladesh for illegal fishing. Indian and Thai fishermen are often apprehended for illegal entry and fishing in Bangladesh waters. Last week 59 Indian fishermen in five fishing boats were apprehended.

India

Dixit Briefs Gandhi on Sri Lankan Situation

BK110922 Delhi ISI Diplomatic Information Service in English 0840 GMT 11 Mar 88

[Text] Indian High Commissioner in Sri Lanka J.N. Dixit, who is in the capital for consultation, had a meeting with Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi on March 10.

An official spokesman told newsmen that Dixit apprised Gandhi of developments in Sri Lanka since President Jayewardene's visit to India in January. These include postponement of provincial council elections in the east and north and of a parliamentary by-election.

Dixit briefed the prime minister about the political situation in Sri Lanka, including the emergence of a new united socialist alliance there.

The high commissioner also met Defense Minister K.C. Pant and Minister of State for External Affairs Natwar Singh.

Defense Minister on Defense Purchase Procedures

BK100939 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 10 Mar 88

[Excerpts] The defense minister, Mr K.C. Pant, assured the Rajya Sabha today that the Indian Army is prepared to meet any threat to the Siachen area, which is an integral part of India. [passage omitted]

Mr Pant also informed the house that a committee has been set up under the chairmanship of the defense secretary to report on the modus operandi of foreign and Indian agents in defense purchases and to suggest steps to eliminate them from such transactions.

The committee has also been asked to give suggestions on streamlining the existing procedures.

The minister said the committee has since submitted its report which is under examination.

5 Killed in Andhra Pradesh Village Election

BK101620 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 10 Mar 88

[Text] In Andhra Pradesh, five persons were killed in group clashes and police firing during the first phase of the gram panchayat [village council] elections today.

In Khammam District, three persons died in group clashes.

In Cuddapah District, two persons were killed, one in group clashes and the other in police firing.

Over 4,600 gram panchayats went to the polls today.

The second phase of the elections will be held on Saturday.

Iran

Musavi Accepts Ozal Call To End Cities War

LD101714 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 10 Mar 88

[Text] The prime minister, Mr Mir Hoseyn Musavi, made the following statement at the end of this morning's meeting of the political council of the cabinet:

In messages yesterday to us and to Iraq, Mr Turgut Ozal, the Turkish prime minister, asked that the war of the cities end at 1700 today.

Our position on this has been clearly declared already. We believe that the war must be waged chivalrously on the battlefield, and that the spread of hostilities to residential areas to victimize women and children merely reflects the impotence of the party that began this crime.

Although we are certain that Iraq's criminal regime will give a negative response to this request, as it has to others in the past, we accept this request. We do so in an effort to stress our humanitarian position and to show the satanic nature of Iraq's Ba'thist government.

If the Iraqi regime's air and missile attacks stop completely, we also will halt such attacks. However, if the Iraqi rulers fail to honor this request from the fraternal state of Turkey, we will intensify our retaliatory measures.

The prime minister added: In our opinion, the most effective way to end the attacks of the Ba'thist-Zionist enemy is to increase the dispatch of our mobilization forces to the fronts as much as we can. Our self-sacrificing people have already seen that the enemy loses hope when he realizes that his barbaric actions have had no effect but to inspire our youth to go to the fronts.

Continuing his remarks, Mr Mir Hoseyn Musavi said: Naturally, our people expect us to retaliate for Saddam's mischief on the battlefield. This will be done at the opportune moment, and in a way more frightening than ever before.

It must be noted that Prime Minister Musavi's reply to the Turkish prime minister's request was sent through the Foreign Ministry.

Spokesman on Red Cross Appeal

LD101838 Tehran IRNA in English 1829 GMT 10 Mar 88

[Text] Tehran, March 10, IRNA—A Foreign Ministry spokesman announced here today that the Islamic Republic of Iran has agreed to an appeal by the Internatonal Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) to halt the war of the cities initiated by the Ba'thist regime of Iraq.

He stressed that the Islamic Republic never initiated attacks on non-military centers and has merely retaliated the Iraqi regime's mischievous acts, adding that Iran will accept the plea provided Ba'thist Iraq stops attacking non-military centers.

The Foreign Ministry spokesman made it clear that the Islamic Republic's acceptance shows its consideration for international regulations and humanitarian values.

In case the Iraqi regime violates this or sets any condition or prerequisition it will face the firm response of the Islamic Republic of Iran as before.

End of Missile Attacks on Iraq Announced

LD111720 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 11 Mar 88

[Text] Following the end to the enemy attacks on the residential areas of our country this afternoon, the retaliatory operations of the Islamic fighters were also stopped.

The spokesman for the WIH has announced: The combatants of Islam, on the basis of the principle of retaliation and with regard to the fact that the Iraqi regime has presently stopped its attacks on the residential areas of Iran, has halted its deterrent attacks as of this Friday afternoon.

He stressed: As we have repeatedly announced, we have never desired to allow the hostilities to extend beyond the battlefronts. During the past 11 days the operations of the fighters of Islam against the cities of Iraq were purely in response to the satanic attacks of the enemy.

He stressed: If the Iraqi regime resorts to the slightest mischief or if it targets the residential, nonmilitary, and economic regions of Iran, the fighters of Islam will respond to the enemy mischief decisively and with all their capabilities.

The WIH spokesman also referred to the cessation of the aggression of the Iraqi regime against the residential areas of our country, saying: The rulers of Baghdad imagined that they could change the course of the war through the acquisition of missiles. The Iraqi regime once again believed, on the basis of erroneous assessments and information, that it could force the brave and resisting people of Iran to surrender by hitting Iranian cities, particularly Tehran, with missiles.

However, the resistance and bravery of the people of Iran in all areas of the Islamic homeland as well as the solid and punishing retaliatory operations of the fighters of Islam proved for the fourth time during the imposed war that the enemy can never attain his dirty aims through resorting to inhuman measures.

On the contrary, the more the enemy resorts to barbaric crimes, the greater will be the resistance and steadfastness of the people of Iran. The spokesman said in conclusion: Let the aggressor Iraqi regime be awakened by the defeat of its objective in this phase of the imposed war, and let it not repeat this experience, or a grave fate awaits it.

Tehran Radio Reports WIH Statement

LD101854 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 10 Mar 88

[Text] Dear listeners, as heard earlier in this newscast, in the wake of requests by a number of friendly heads of states to halt military attacks against residential areas, the WIH HQ has issued the following important announcement:

In His exalted name. Resistant and heroic people of Iran, your remarkable and amazing resistance against the savage and inhuman crimes of the warmongering regime in Iraq will eventually defeat the plots of the enemies of the Islamic Revolution. As it attempted to do 8 years age, the aggressor enemy this time has made your homes and shelters targets for its missiles and aircraft in order to force you, the resolute and untiring nation, to surrender. The enemy had assumed that the power of their missiles could damage your will and determination to continue the sacred defense.

Having introduced missiles into the war and fired them at the cities of Tehran, Qom, and Esfahan, and their residential areas, the enemy presumed that it could change the course of the war in its own favor. However, they must now once again accept the fact that weapons cannot win over belief and that the more the enemy increases its attacks and savagery, the more the resistance of the people of Iran—the vanguards of monotheism and divine justice in the world—gloriously unfolded.

The warrior nation of Iran, the Islamic Republic of Iran, has repeatedly declared that it has no intention to drag out the war on the fronts, that it always has and continues to refrain from attacking civilians.

However, the Iraqi warmongering regime, disregarding all international codes and norms and trampling under foot humanitarian and Islamic principles, makes innocent and defenseless people the targets for its savage attacks every time it feel pressure on the warfronts or it assumes a position of power for itself. Implementing a predetermined plan, the Baghdad rulers prepared themselves to attack our cities and, as of 29 February, launched air attacks against residential and nonmilitary quarters around Tehran and the cities of Saqqez, Hamadan, and Dezful, dragging in blood and dust a number of esteemed Iranian citizens.

At first, the Islamic Republic of Iran, observing and practicing self-restraint and its own humanitarian stands, retaliated against the enemy attacks with limited action. However, the Baghdad rulers continued their attacks against the residential areas of Iran and in less than 23 hours, fired 27 missiles at Tehran's residential areas, falsely believing that such acts could force the Iranian people to surrender.

Firing so many missiles at Tehran shows that our enemy began its attacks on Iran's residential quarters fully prepared. Following the savage attacks, the Islamic fighters took serious steps to confront enemy attacks by raining down awesome missiles, aircraft, and artillery fire on the enemy.

Aware and humanitarian people. We have repeatedly announced that we never wanted to attack residential and nonmilitary quarters. In the course of our retaliatory operations we have made every effort to target economic, military, and industrial installations inside the cities of Iraq. In pursuing this policy the Islamic Republic of Iran has replied in a positive way to every international request to end the war of cities. We have followed this policy since the day Iraqi attacks against Iran's residential areas began 10 days ago. These humanitarian beliefs and viewpoints of the Islamic Republic of Iran can no longer be doubted by any just organization or person.

We declare at this juncture—while insisting on our unwavering policies concerning retaliation—that any time the enemy halts its attacks against the cities and residential areas of our country, we will refrain from retalitory operations and will only retaliate on the battlefronts. However, if the enemy pursues its aggression and attempts to attack the nonmilitary, economic, and residential areas of Iran, a decisive and pounding response of the Islamic fighters will be deliverd in a matter of minutes.

Mighty and brave nation of Iran. Your sons, the symbols of the bravery, valor, selflessness, and resistance of the nation, will not rest until they punish the aggressor and restore your downtrodden rights. The enemy sees your sons' valor in the continuing war along the battlefronts. The enemy, as they have repeatedly declared before, will not use their weapons against the cities and residential areas. Let it be known that we are victorious, and that victory by the believers is a divine promise.

Hashemi-Rafsanjani Gives Friday Prayers Sermon

LD111258 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1030 GMT 11 Mar 88

[Text] Concurrent with the continuation of the Zionist Iraqi regime's crimes in attacking Iran's residential areas, our country's risen and God-seeking ummah, by their solid presence today in Friday prayer venues throughout the country, once again demonstrated their revolutionary nature and their attachment to the preservation of the Islamic Revolution's gains. Islamic Iran's God-seeking people chanted "Hoseyn, Hoseyn is our slogan," "Martyrdom is our honor," "We will fight, we will die, we will not compromise," and "War, war until victory." They gloriously demonstrated the dignity and will of a risen nation to resist and stand firm in the face of the conspiracies of global arrogance.

In Tehran, the divine-policital Friday prayer ceremonies were held at Tehran University and in the surrounding streets and were attended by the God-seeking and resistant people. A large number of the people wore shrouds and chanted "We will fight, we will die, we will not compromise," "Missile for missile," and "O Muslims of Iran, resistance," as they performed their Islamic duty under the leadership of Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Hashemi-Rafsanjani.

Meanwhile, concurrent with the Friday prayers, the Zionist enemy subjected Tehran to a missile attack. As a result of divine defense, the missile exploded in midair. As the praying people watched the destruction of the missile in the sky over Tehran, they chanted "Death to America," "Death to Israel," and "Better to die with honor than to live in disgrace."

In his Friday prayers sermons the representative of the imam on the Supreme Defense Council analyzed the conspiracies of global arrogance against the Islamic movement in Iran and other Islamic countries and said: What we are witnessing now, these crimes being committed by the 'Afaqi regime against civilians and which, unfortunately, force us to retaliate in order to prevent the continuation of these crimes, is in reality a confrontation between blasphemy and Islam.

The Majlis speaker added: Arrogance and global blasphemy is not raging against us as Iranians; if they are angry with us because of our geographic location, it is because they are asking themselves why Islam occupies this geographic location that is coveted by global arrogance.

Praising the unparalleled resistance of the Iranian people, particularly the people of Tehran, Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Hashemi-Rafsanjani said: The main factor behind this steadfastness and endurance is nothing other than Islam and the Koran. It is strange for the world to see that the more the pressure on this nation increases, the more its resistance increases and the more serious it becomes with regard to its chosen path. Divine will has decided that, despite all the hardships, it will nurture this nation and make it an example for all other nations in the world.

The imam's representative on the Supreme Defense Council then referred to the defeat of the U.S. plans in the Persian Gulf and to the shameful withdrawal of that country and other NATO countries' forces from the Persian Gulf and said: Now, all people and all aware diplomats agree that the unprecedented resistance of Iranians has crushed the United States' prestige in the world.

The Majlis speaker also referred to the manner in which Westerners tampered with Iraq's missiles in order to allow them to reach Tehran. He referred to the differences between Iraq's missiles and those of the Islamic Republic's regarding their explosive power and strength and said: Of course, it is unacceptable to our nation that people who are our neighbors and want to have favorable relations with us and to whom we hope to extend the hand of friendship in the future have given so many missiles to the Iraqi regime in the past few years.

Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Hashemi-Refsanjani emphasized: We will respond to these missiles in order to stop the war-mongering Iraqi regime, but our main reply will be given on the fronts, on the borders, or inside Iraqi territory. It is there that we will take our revenge on Iraq's criminal Ba'thists.

The Majlis speaker also warned the reactionary shaykhs along the southern coast of the Persian Gulf: Do not be deceived by these acts, and do not try to become entangled with the Iraqi regime. We will bring Saddam to the gallows and punish him.

Criticizes Soviets in Sermon

LD111502 Tehran IRNA in English 1453 GMT 11 Jan 88

[Text] Tehran, March 11, IRNA—Majlis Speaker Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani said here today that the Baghdad Government is firing missiles into Tehran apparently because the Iraqi ruler Saddam Husayn believes he can rouse the city's population against the Islamic government. He said contrary to the interpretation of Western analysts the Tehranis do not compose an affluent class of mal-contents and fun-loving citizens like Iranian emigre groups abroad but that they are "the very same people who (in 1979) expelled the shah from Iran."

Hashemi-Rafsanjani, who was addressing a multitudinous group of worshippers at the compounds of Tehran University during the Friday congregational prayers here today, said that continued missile attacks on Tehran by the Baghdad government and its escalation of the war of the cities would only serve to make Iran's Mulsim combatants firmer in their demands with respect to the conflict.

He criticized the Soviets for having provided missiles to the Baghdad government, saying that the Iranians cannot possibly "acquit" the Soviets of the charges against them even though they might have delivered the missiles to Iraq at a distant past. Hashemi-Rafsanjani said the Iranians cannot tolerate arms supply to their enemy by a neighbor "which has indicated an interest in improving relations" with Iran.

Hashemi-Rafsanjani reflected on the element of religious faith in Muslim uprisings in various parts of the world including Afghanistan and the occupied Palestine and said the big powers observe the Islamic Republic as the hotbed of Islamic ideology and have long since concluded that once they stamp out the Islamic Revolution in Iran they shall have aborted the revolutions in Afghanistan, and in the occupied lands and elsewhere throughout the world.

The Majlis speaker said the big powers' atrocities against the Islamic Republic is not because they bear a grudge against the Iranian people but that because they are apprehensive of the Islamic ideology and of the growth of a revolutionary Islam among Muslims.

He said for a relatively long time the big powers had second thoughts whether or not they should arm the Baghdad government with long-range missiles able to hit Tehran, because they could not tell if those missiles would not be deployed against themselves at an unknown future time. He noted that the Scud-B missiles which Iraq has modified for hitting Tehran has far less destructive power than the Iranian missiles.

Without identifying in name, Hashemi-Rafsanjani referred to the Persian Gulf supporters of the Baghdad government describing them as already "half-dead" and warning them against hoping to witness an Iraqi victory in the conflict. Threatened Hashemi-Rafsanjani towards the end of his sermon, "we will eventually pull Saddam to the gallows and will give him his due punishment."

Missile Attacks, Ground Operations Continue

More Iraqi Air Raids Noted

LD101721 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 10 Mar 88

[Text] Continuing its savage attacks against our country's residential centers, the Zionist regime in Iraq attacked the cities of Do Rud, Khorramabad, Masjed-e Soleyman, and Ilam by air this afternoon. Hamadan, Dezful, and Shushtar were also bambed for the second time today.

This evening, the Zionist regime Iraq, attempted another criminal act by subjecting Qom to another missile attack. No official reports of casualties or damage have been received. There are reports that in the course of savage attacks by the enemy this evening, a number of our fellow citizens have been martyred or injured. A number of houses, schools, and medical centers have been damaged.

Meanwhile, attempts by the Iraqi regime's aircraft to bomb residential centers in Bakhtaran, Sanandaj, Hamadan, and Esfahan were foiled by the intense fire from anti-aircraft units stationed in those cities. The enemy aircraft, on leaving the area, broke the sound barrier over several of these cities. The same report notes that in the course of savage attacks by the enemy this morning against Tehran, Hamadan, Arak, Dezful, Shushtar, Shahr-e Kord, and Daran in Esfahan Province, and also a village near Borujerd, at least 31 of our fellow citizens were martyred and a number were injured.

Communique No 3,137

LD101911 Tehran IRNA in English 1840 GMT 10 Mar 88

[Text] Tehran, March 10, IRNA—Iranian jet fighters heavily bombed Iraqi troop concentration sites in Al-'Amarah, economic and military centers of Basra and enemy tactical headquarters and positions in Abu al-Khasib Thursday, inflicting substantial casualties and losses on the enemy.

The 3137th Joint Staff communique, announcing the above here today reported that all fighters returned safely to bases after sucessfully carrying out the bombing missions which took place at 08:40, 09:10, 10:05, 14:10 and 15:05 (05:10, 05:40, 06:35 and 11:35 GMT).

Iranian anti-aircraft fire shot down three Iraqi warplanes in the Iranian cities of Do Rud, Hamadan and Bakhtaran at 11:04, 11:32 and 15:03 (07:34, 08:02 and 11:33 GMT) Thursday.

In the Strait of Hormuz, Iran's naval gunboats intercepted and searched five cargo ships and oil tankers yesterday but allowed them to continue voyage after making certain they were not carrying cargo for the Iraqi regime.

The Islamic Republic Air Force effectively carried out reconnaissance flights over the Persian Gulf and the Gulf of Oman yesterday in support of the Navy.

On Wednesday, Iranian long range artillery pounded economic and military centers of Mandali, Banmil, Nahr Alwand, Jiasorkh [name as received], 'Ali al-Sharqi, 'Ali al-Gharbi, Khanaqin, Al-Sulaymaniyah and Basra, inflicting heavy casualties and losses on the enemy.

Six missiles were also fired at industrial installations around Basra and Khanaqin by the army missile unit Wednesday.

An undetermined number of Iraqi soldiers were killed or wounded and vast part of enemy fortifications set ablaze throughout the battlefields in artillery duels with Iran's Muslim combatants yesterday.

Heavy fire of the Muslim combatants also suppressed Iraqi patrol operations in Sumar and Eynkhosh regions, western and southern sectors, yesterday.

Iranian Gendarmerie forces traded artillery fire with Iraqi troops in parts of the southern and western fronts Wednesday, killing a number of enemy soldiers and destroying four bunkers and observation posts of theirs, concluded the communique.

2 Missiles Fired at Baghdad

LD102002 Tehran IRNA in English 1555 GMT 10 Mar 88

[Text] Tehran, March 10, IRNA—Two Iranian surface-to-surface missiles were fired at a military center and radio-television station in Baghdad at 20:00 and 20:02 local times (16:30 and 16:32 GMT) Thursday.

In a statement issued here Thursday, the IRGC Central Headquarters warned that Iran's Muslim combatants will continue their reprisal attacks on eco-military centers of all Iraqi cities except the four holy ones already specified by Iran, until the enemy ceases its attacks on Iranian residential areas.

Missile Hits Residential Area

LD102027 Tehran IRNA in English 2019 GMT 10 Mar 88

[Text] Tehran, March 10, IRNA—A residential area in Tehran was hit by an Iraqi surface-to-surface missile Thursday night, martyring and wounding several civilians. Immediate reports on exact number of casualties and extent of damage were not available.

8 Dead, 20 Injured in Attack

LD110312 Tehran IRNA in English 0308 GMT 11 Mar 88

[Text] Tehran, March 11, IRNA—At least eight people were martyred and 20 others wounded in enemy missile attacks on Tehran and the holy city of Qom Thursday night and early Friday. There are a number of women and children among the casualties. Several residential units were also destroyed in these attacks.

'Scores' of Casualties

LD110828 Tehran IRNA in English 0820 GMT 11 Mar 88

[Text] Tehran, March 11, IRNA—Scores of civilian were martyred and wounded late last night when intruding Iraqi planes bombed three residential quarters in the city of Borujerd, in Lorestan Province, western Iran.

Three civilian points populated by poor people were hit in the city causing substantial damage as well.

This was the second Iraqi attack on Borujerd on Thursday. Earlier in the day enemy planes bombed a village near the city causing some casualties and damage.

Tehran, Qom Hit By 2 Missiles

LD110849 Tehran IRNA in English 0847 GMT 11 Mar 88

[Text] Tehran, March 11, IRNA—Civilian areas in Tehran and the holy city of Qom were subjected to two long-range Iraqi missiles this morning. A number of civilians were injured and some damage was inflicted on property.

Iraqi Planes Bomb 8 Cities

LD110945 Tehran IRNA in English 0935 GMT 11 Mar 88

[Text] Tehran, March 11, IRNA—Intruding Iraqi planes bombed civilian quarters in the Iranian cities of Hamadan, Islamabad-e Gharb, Ilam, Baneh, Ardabil, and Maragheh (in west and northwest Iran), Dezful (in the south) and Rasht (in the north), Friday morning.

Many civilian were martyred and wounded in these dastardly enemy attacks. Substantial material damage was also inflicted. In Baneh a school was destroyed.

Iraqi SU-22 Airplane Downed

LD111105 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 11 Mar 88

[Text] According to the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran, in the course of aerial attacks by the Iraqi regime on the residential areas of our country, at 1329 today a Sukhoy-22 aircraft belonging to the enemy was targetted by the air defense units of the Air Force of the Islamic Republic in the southern regions and was shot down.

Sites 'Intensely Bombarded'

LD111133 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 11 Mar 88

[Text] In response to the latest atrocities of the Ba'thist enemy in its attacks on the residential areas of the cities of our country, the brave pilots of the Air Force of the Islamic Republic of Iran, flying several of their fighter-bombers, at 1140, 1155, 1215, 1255, and 1313 today, 11 March, intensely bombarded military-economic locations and troop concentration sites of the enemy's forces in Al-'Amarah, Faqqeh, and Shaykh Lankar in the provinces of Kirkuk and Tuz Khurmatu. After inflicting heavy losses and casualities on the enemy, all returned safely to base.

The brave troops of the Ground Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran, responding to the criminal Ba'thist enemy, at 1800 yesterday brought under the crushing fire of their long-range artillery the economic and military installations of the cities of Basra, Khanaqin, Banmil, Naft Khaneh, Mandali, Al-Sulaymaniyah, and Qal'at Dizah. According to this report, the mighty troops of the Ground Forces of the Islamic Republic targetted vital military installation of the cities of Basra and Al-'Amarah with four of their ground-to-ground missiles.

Mobilization Unit Relief Cells Stage Exercise

LD111138 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 11 Mar 88

[Text] The exercise of the relief cells of the helpers of the Mobilization Unit of the administrative department of the 1st God's Vengeance Corps was carried out this morning in Tehran amid chants of "Death to America," and "Death to Israel." According to a report by the Central News Unit, the participants in these exercise declared their readiness to help those who have been wounded and injured in the savage attacks of the Zionist Iraqi regime on residential areas.

The official in charge of staging the exercise, in an interview with reporters, said: The aim of this exercise is to announce to the world and global arrogance that the futile attacks of the Zionist regime of Iraq on the residential areas of Iran's cities will not deter us from our resistance and the sacred defence of the Islamic Revolution's aspirations.

Rafiqdust, Kharrazi Discuss War of Cities

NC101814 Tehran Television Service in Persian 1710 GMT 10 Mar 88

[Political roundtable discussion conducted by Mohsen Rafiqdust, minister of the IRGC, and Mr Kamal Kharrazi, head of the WIH, moderated by Afshar, newscaster from the Voice and Vision of the Islamic Republic of Iran, on 10 March—recorded]

[Text] [Afshar] Mr Rafiqdust, it was 11 days ago Monday [29 February] that the Iraqi regime started the missile attacks on our cities. This week Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani, the honorable Majlis speaker, gave a radio and television interview and discussed the dimensions of the missile attacks by the Zionist Iraqi regime on our residential areas.

In his remarks he stated that the Iraqi missile attack on our cities is a prearranged plot in which Iraq is not operating alone, that other countries are also participating in this plot. He also noted the two elements of the attack, major and peripheral—the peripheral being the missile attacks on our cities. Please comment on what Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani meant as the major element of this plot.

[Rafiqdust] In the name of God, the almighty, the compassionate. Since approximately 18 months ago the world's propaganda machinery has focused on the fact that Saddam had a missile at his disposal with which he could attack Tehran. This was widely publicized. Some people were wondering what would happen if Tehran were hit by a missile. Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani was interviewed after a missile had been fired at Tehran. In addition to the fact that we gained martyrs, each of whom we value greatly as history, the world's expectations about the results of the missiles were definitely not fulfilled. Actually, they backfired.

By firing the missiles they hoped to prevent the people, the officials, and the war from continuing our sacred defense. We have definitely seen greater solidarity among the people now. As for the war of cities, the peripheral element, it will definitely be foiled by our retaliation, by the great impact we have on the enemy. Today the major element was clarified. The missile was fired on Tehran, yet our people have displayed more determination, our fighters have closed ranks, and the people have gone to the fronts more determined than ever.

[Afshar] Thank you very much. Mr Kharrazi, following Iraq's missile attacks on our cities and residential areas, we heard in the news that the Soviet Union called on the Security Council to hold an extraordinary meeting to study the missile attacks and the war of the cities. Can you explain to our viewers, because I think our people are very interested, the details of this Soviet plan?

[Kharrazi] The Soviet plan consists of two parts. The first is to end the attacks on the cities, and the second involves sending a representative of the secretary general to follow up the issue of ending the war. Of course, the Soviet plan was not welcomed by the United States, Britain, or some other Western countries because first, as the facts show, those countries were involved in engineering this recent attack on our cities. Basically, as Saddam has officially announced, they engineered this attack in order to pressure us to accept unconditionally Resolution No 598.

Therefore, the Soviet plan jeopardized their objectives. Thus, they did not welcome this. Of course, this issue is still being discussed, and an official meeting has not yet taken place. At any rate, it clarified one issue: The suggesting of such a plan at such a time met with the clear opposition of the Americans, who viewed this as a threat to their program.

[Afshar] Mr Rafiqdust, after the Iraqi regime began its attacks on our residential areas, the Islamic Republic of Iran retaliated with magnitude and power. So far, more than 20 missiles have been fired at Baghdad. Do you have precise information on what areas in Baghdad these missiles have hit?

[Rafiqdust] Yes, we are receiving news through various means. Baghdad television's Channel 1 has definitely been hit. A missile has hit the (Karayat al-Maryam) area, which is near Saddam's palace. We had aimed at the Ba'th Party centers in new Baghdad, and missiles hit that area too. Also, the (Zarf) area of Baghdad, a gathering place for Ba'thist officers and where the government centers are located, was hit by several missiles. We have now heard that they have completely evacuated that area.

According to our experts, the precision of our missiles is definitely about three times greater than the precision of the Iraqi missiles fired at Iran, apart from the other differences that exist. In other words, we are more precise in hitting our targets than Saddam, who is firing missiles without a target, missiles which we see falling on hospitals and schools.

[Afshar] How do you explain this difference in precision?

[Rafiqdust] As stated by Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani, these missiles are the same Scud-B missiles that we are firing at Baghdad, but they have changed theirs. By decreasing the missile's explosive power and increasing its fuel, they have increased its range. This has naturally upset the effectiveness of the missile and it is not precise. They fire it, and it makes random hits.

[Afshar] Mr Kharrazi, the assessment by some of our officials is that this war of the cities and these missile attacks are short-lived and will soon end. What is the basis of this assessment?

[Kharazi] This assessment is based on the fact that Iraq, which is investing much in this matter, is making some calculations and has an objective. Its intention is to make us surrender. Naturally, when it sees that we are resisting and will never surrender, then it would be illogical to continue wasting its time and investments. Thus, if we are resistant and steadfast and because these attacks do not psychologically affect our society and our people, the Iraqi regime will naturally have to end these attacks. This is the basis of that assessment.

However, what is important is that we not be simple-minded and think that we should not prepare to confront a long-term war situation. We should take measures as far as living in a city and resistance are concerned, so that threats against us have no effect. We should prepare ourselves and double our resistance, so that we are harmed less, even if this situation continues for a long time and we ultimately oust the enemy from the arena.

[Afshar] Mr Kharrazi, as you have stated, it is possible that time will tell that this missile attack and the war of the cities will not be short-lived, but protracted. In this case, and you yourself have stated that we should be prepared, does the government have a specific program?

[Kharrazi] Many shelters built last year are available. Most of the ministries and large buildings have prepared their shelters and basements for people who can reach them, who can go and stay there day and night. The subway is being prepared to provide a vast and strong shelter. There are other shelters, such as those built in the schools. There are many of these. There are also other alternatives that are now being prepared. These are programs that the government has begun and is now accelerating.

We hope it will not be protracted. However, we should not stop our programs. We should continue them and build shelters that are even stronger, that can resist stronger attacks than this, to safeguard the lives of our people.

[Afshar] You also have something to say?

[Rafiqdust] Yes, as a member of the cabinet I should state that the government has prepared itself for protracted resistance, and many programs have been prepared by headquarters to support the bombed areas in situations both before and after attacks. These programs will be announced gradually. Some information may not be disseminated through the mass media in order to prevent this information's falling into the hands of the enemy. The government is preparing itself so that each time the enemy carries out mischief, the military forces can retaliate, while continuing to preserve as much as possible the people's welfare. The government is not facing any problems in this regard.

[Afshar] Thank you very much. Mr Kharrazi, one of the reasons the Iraqi regime has resumed its missile and bombing attacks on the residential areas of our Islamic homeland is to inflict psychological pressure on our people, to create dissatisfaction among our people. However, the experience of the war of cities during the past 2 years has shown that our people's resistant attitude has defeated the air attacks and the war of the cities. The march of millions on Jerusalem Day is a proof of this. On this basis, please tell us why has Saddam's regime, despite this experience, resumed the war of cities.

[Kharrazi] The answer to this is actually the answer to your question to Mr Rafiqdust, that is, the major and peripheral issues. They thought that with this new weapon at their disposal—that is, with the change that they made to their old weapons which can now reach Tehran—they could actually start a new phase in the war of the cities. They hoped that this phase would be effective and could break the people's morale. However, you saw what happened, and the matter was actually negated. The effectiveness of the missile, which they thought could create fear, failed and these attacks became routine for the people, so much so that we who live in Tehran see how normal the situation is, how fear of missiles strikes and of the results does not exist.

Actually, the situation is more normal than before. They thought they could start a new game with this missile and apply pressure on us. They also announced that by attacking the cities they intended to impose Resolution No 598. However, the experience we have gained from previous years has made our people resistant, and naturally they do not surrender to such things. In the 1364 [year ending 20 March 1986] bombing of cities, 789 people were martyred and approximately 2,037 injured.

In 1365 [year ending 20 March 1987] 2,938 people were martyred and 11,163 wounded. We were able to endure that with our resistance, to attend million-strong marches, and to display our resistance and steadfastness after these bombings. Naturally, in the new phase of the war of the cities the pressures are much less than they were during those bombings. God willing, we will endure this phase too and defeat the enemy. This is where the difference lies, and, God willing, this will end.

[Afshar] Mr Rafiqdust, during the past 11 days the Iraqi regime has fired probably more than 47 missiles at our residential areas. The explosions of these missiles have been heard, and our people, who are not very well acquainted with missile attacks, have asked some questions. Sometimes, two consecutive explosions are heard, sometimes only one. I think our people are very interested in hearing a general explanation of missile strikes, explosions, and how they operate.

[Rafiqdust] As stated, Scud-B missiles have a warhead of about 800 kg, a range of 150 km, and a speed of 330 seconds from firing to target. Since the missile has been altered, with 180 cm being added to its fuel compartment and its warhead decreased by about 620 kg, those missiles that hit the ground and explode do not usually produce two sounds of explosion. Those missiles that explode in the air usually have a big fuel tank which falls elsewhere.

The people who have not seen a missile and do not know what a missile is think that the fuel tank is also a missile. The figures are those that have been given [on the number of missiles fired]. Usually, when a missile explodes in the air the sound of the explosion echoes and is heard twice, so that the people think two missiles have been fired. However, they have fired 47 missiles so far.

[Afshar] Mr Rafiqdust, is there a possibility—one way or another—for our officials to know beforehand if a missile has been fired and to warn the people with a siren?

[Rafiqdust] God willing, this will soon be achieved.

[Afshar] Is a program being set up?

[Rafiqdust] Yes, maybe, God willing, it will become effective as of today; we will do the best we can.

[Afshar] Thank you very much. Mr Kharrazi, in answering my previous question, you pointed out that the motive behind Iraq's missile attack on Iran is to force us to accept Resolution No 598 and to inflict psychological pressure on our people. Of course, it is clear that our people are motivated to resist. As they are motivated to resist, they will resist until victory, until the end. However, the retaliatory operations by our fighting brothers—as also stated by our brother Mr Rafiqdust—particularly as the explosive strength of our missiles is far greater than the Iraqi missiles, thus causing a stronger explosion, are creating dissatisfaction among the people of Iraq and Baghdad.

Psychological pressure is inflicted on the Iraqi people too. As the Iraqi people are not motivated to resist, this psychological pressure is a hundred times greater. Therefore, why has Saddam's regime resumed the war of the cities?

[Kharrazi] First, the Iraqi people are not included in the Ba'thist regime's calculations. Therefore, it is not important to the Ba'thist regime that damage is inflicted on the Iraqi people. We have seen how throughout the war they have killed hundreds of thousands of Iraqis for no reason, for the sake of useless aggression and illogical hegemonism. Second, the hope that they had invested in their so-called trump card—the missile—led them to believe that the damage inflicted on their city and their people would be worthwhile because they thought they could force us to surrender.

[Afshar] Mr Kharrazi, it has been 11 days now since Iraqi missile attacks on our cities began, and 47 missiles have been fired. Most of the impact was felt in the first few days. I think on the 1st day about 10 missiles were fired at Tehran. How do you assess our people's resistance at this point?

[Kharrazi] If you compare the situation during this phase of the war of the cities with the previous phases, you will see that this has become much more routine for the people. This shows that the people's resistance is much higher and that these attacks have not created problems. As for resistance, basically the people should try to adapt to conditions. Adapting is a necessity in resistance. When the war of the cities starts, the people should go to the shelters and take special precautions. Those who are ill should leave the cities and go elsewhere, if they have somewhere to go. We have never prevented the people from leaving the cities at such times, never.

Those who have nothing to do in the city can go and return when the danger has eased. Those who stay in the city, who must stay there, should adapt to the conditions called for in a war of the cities. They should live on lower floors and in shelters. My assessment is that the people's resistance is very high. We even received a report that our POW's in Iraqi camps—the symbols of resistance and steadfastness—were extremely happy when they heard missiles falling because they knew that Iran was retaliating and was standing strong. This, in itself, adds to the people's resistance and steadfastness.

[Afshar] Mr Rafiqdust, I would like to ask you the same question. In your capacity as IRGC minister you come in contact with various people—either personally or by telephone. How do you assess the people's resistance?

[Rafiqdust] I would like to answer your question by using two examples. One happened last night in our shelter, and the other was a telephone call to the IRGC Ministry. The first incident was filmed and should be shown on television. The film crew approached a young boy of 9 or 10 and asked him what the place he was in was called. The boy answered that it was an entrenchment. They asked him why he had come there, and he answered that the war of the cities is going on and all the big powers—the United States, the Soviet Union, Britain, France, and everyone else—want to make us fear war. The young boy added: We are not afraid of the war. We are resisting, and I will grow up and go to the battlefronts.

The second incident occured when an old woman called the ministry yesterday afternoon from an area that had been hit by a missile. She said they were staying in the area that had been hit and were preparing an offering for our fighters going to fight the enemy. These are the two incidents. Generally, the people's approach is relatively good. Great friendship has been created among the people, among the people and officials. We declare that we are at the people's disposal at atll times, in every way. All the safe havens are at the disposal of the people who can come and use them.

[Afshar] Thank you very much, Mr Rafiqdust. As you know, much of the news these days centers on the arms embargo against Iran. Our officials believe the arms embargo cannot affect our just war of good against evil. So far we have certainly been facing an arms embargo by governments that manufacture arms, and we purchase the arms we need—of course, minus those we manufacture domestically—on the free market or the so-called black market. However, when the arms embargo is enacted, it will of course affect the black market, also, and we will have to purchase these arms at a higher price. Naturally, our economy will be affected, which may affect our war. How do you assess this?

[Rafiqdust] Had this embargo issue been proposed 2, 3, or 4 years ago it may have been a topic of disucssion today. However, if we say today that the world should not impose an arms embargo on us, this does not mean that if it does we will surrender or have to tolerate a difficult economic situation. No. Last year, the new year of mass production of war materiel, we developed a program which will be completed by the first few months of this year [as heard], under which we will save $1 billion on arms. This year we reached the $600-million mark with the arms produced for our fighters. In my capacity as official in charge of war support and a member of the cabinet, I state that the course of the war will not be affected at all; we can manufacture whatever else we need.

Economically, we have been daily reducing our dependence on foreign countries. When we pay fewer dollars, our economy will definitely be less affected. Our economy is not now facing any special problems. As you yourself said, it has been 7 or 8 years since they have sold us any strategic arms. The channels through which we bought parts and some materiel are always open, and their prices are always the same. In other words, they are always facing the issue of embargo. [sentence as heard]

Therefore, it does not make much difference. I would also like to state that this embargo promises our educated youth that their wishes will be fulfilled sooner. We hope that the small quantity we received from abroad will not be needed, God willing, in 1367 [year beginning 21 March 1988]. God willing, these will not affect us.

[Afshar] I have another question about this. The IRGC has definitely started praiseworthy operations to produce complicated weapons such as various missiles like the TOW, submarines, and other complicated armament. However, as far as I know—and it would be better for you to speak about this so that our viewers will be more informed—most of these weapons have not reached the mass production stage. Some time will certainly be needed to reach this mass production stage. Until that time, we definitely need these weapons and should procure them. Have any plans been made?

[Rafiqdust] Everything but the missiles has reached a mass production stage. In other words, we are manufacturing mortar-launchers, artillery guns, and ammunition in great volume. The war on the battlefronts is generally being conducted with what we have produced ourselves.

[Afshar] Please comment on small battleships, too. Do we have mass production in this?

[Rafiqdust] As far as naval equipment is concerned, we are in production. The first relatively large example was recently launched. In 1367, we will launch a large number of big ships—up to 65 meters long—with, God willing, various arms. Production has now started. We have proven our manufacturing experience. As for planes, the first type has had a flight test. A request for production has been made, and, God willing, in 1367 a large number of these will fly and will be used even, God willing, in the war. As for missiles—something new in our country—during the time of the past regime the Americans wanted to build them in Iran.

They received a large amount of foreign exchange without doing anything. At the beginning of the revolution they took the documents and fled. When we started work on this, the project was so vast that only half-hearted attempts were made at it. Work started with the production of the TOW missile—which we will henceforth call the Fahmideh missile, both in memory of martyr Hoseyn Fahmideh, who blew up a tank, which is something that this missile does, and because this missile can be directed and is an intelligent [fahmideh] missile. Production of this missile required very advanced technology. At this very moment, our need to go abroad has ended.

In other words, what we have available, what we had, will help us continue the war. We will no longer need to buy this missile; it is now being manufactured and regularly tested. If they show the film we have placed at your disposal, you will see how this missile flies. God willing, in our next program we will show a film of the U.S. missile.

[Afshar] I think they are showing the film now. Please give some explanations about the film for our listeners.

[Rafiqdust] This is a trial missile which will not explode when it hits its target; it is one of our own missiles. It moves so precisely it hits the bull's eye. The trial was extremely successful. Even in aiming this missile we see how it is more modern, more effective, and lighter than its American counterpart.

[Kharrazi] The film is in slow motion.

[Rafiqdust] Yes, the speed here is 35 times less than normal. You can now see how it hits the bull's-eye precisely, and this had been unprecedented. Work on the missile took place in extremely large complexes...

[Afshar, interrupting] Mr Rafiqdust, please excuse me, but concerning the film that was just shown—and this is something I think our people are seeing for the first time and on this program—how can the people tell that this missile is not the same missile given to Iran during the McFarlane incident? Is there something to prove that this missile is manufactured by Iran?

[Rafiqdust] Of course. We will organize an exhibition that will show how we manufacture all the parts. The missiles now being tested do not explode when they hit their target because we have not yet armed them with warheads. Moreover, the end of the missile clearly indicates it is manufactured in Iran and is not foreign-made. Basically, the Americans themselves are better aware than anyone that we have manufactured these ourselves.

[Afshar] Please continue what you were saying.

[Rafiqdust] As for long-range missiles—surface-to-surface missiles, surface-to-air missiles, and land-to-sea missiles—fortunately, work was carried out in several complexes, both in the IRGC and other centers, and our brothers who are working on the surface-to-surface missiles have told officials that technically, technologically, and scientifically they are facing no problems in manufacturing the missile.

God willing, we want to try to manufacture a large quantity soon. I have been advised not to say too much about this now and not to give any dates. As far as missiles are concerned, we have no problems now. The situation at our depots is, thank God, good. We assure you that we have no technological problems. Now we need time to set up a factory and to attain mass production. This is natural, and, God willing, our nation will soon witness the victory to be scored by its children in these areas.

[Afshar] Mr Kharrazi, I have many questions to ask you, also. However, the information Mr Rafiqdust is giving us is so vast and so good, more questions constantly come to mind. You referred to the Fajr plane which had its test flight recently, and you stated that we also want to make military use of this plane. In view of what the people and I have seen in various films, the Fajr is a small plane without the capacity to carry a bomb or a 1,000-kg load or to carry out military operations. What is meant by military operations for this plane?

[Rafiqdust] Iraq uses these same planes—of course, manufactured abroad—to harass our fighters. The plane has several models, one of which carries a bomb and drops it over a city or a target. The plane we are now working on is one that will be used on the battlefronts and will be equipped with a gun and light bombs. I may not state the exact weight of these bombs, which is not much less than you said. The plane may appear small to you, but it is a modern aircraft designed by our own children. Our experience is that we can build a plane quite successfully without copying a foreign model. The next types will definitely be larger, and, God willing, we will speak about the next phase soon.

[Afshar] I still have many questions to put to you, Mr Rafiqdust. But allow me to address some questions to our brother Mr Kharrazi. Mr Kharrazi, one of the analyses of the arms embargo against Iran contends that this embargo will make us push to fill our depots with arms, that we will buy arms without regard for cost and thus pay more money, and that this will in turn affect our economy. The scenario continues that when our economy is affected, inevitably the war effort, too, will become vulnerable. How do you assess this analysis?

[Kharrazi] Throughout the war it has been speculated that the superpowers do not want the war with Iraq to end, because it created a good market for them and was at the same time a weakening element. This analysis may have been correct. Perhaps this was one of the objectives behind the onset of the war. They thought that by starting the war they would first gain a very good market for their arms, so that they could test their arms and devour the region's money. Second, they thought it would weaken both sides. But, of course, this calculation proved wrong and backfired. It is true that Iraq was weakened, but we were not.

On the contrary, we were strengthened, and we are considered a military power in the region today. But now the situation is different. In other words, the whole aim of the superpowers is not to allow us to score a military victory. Therefore, they do all they can to support Iraq. They give Iraq all kinds of arms. They want to impose an arms embargo on us in order to prevent our military victory. However, the situation is different now. The issue is one of selling arms to one side, Iraq, and filling its depots to help it defend itself, and of not selling arms to Iran and imposing an arms embargo so that it cannot defend itself and continue its defense.

[Afshar] As far as the arms embargo is concerned, it is said that if either of the warring sides—Iran or Iraq—does not accept Resolution 598, it will face a 2-year arms embargo. There are two ways to approach this. One is the initiative by UN Secretary General Perez de Cuellar, which says that all the articles of Resolution 598 are of the same priority. In other words, any of the articles can be implemented at any moment as the first step. The other approach is that of the United States and pro-U.S. countries, which states that the articles should be implemented exactly as they appear in the resolution. If an arms embargo is to take place, which of the two approaches will be used?

[Kharrazi] Actually, the pretext they are using for the arms embargo is that we have not clearly accepted Resolution 598, and they want to hand the Security Council a resolution on the arms embargo stating that the side that has not accepted Resolution 598 should face an arms embargo. Therefore, the issue is one of accepting or not accepting Resolution 598. Of course, our stand has been that we have not rejected or accepted the resolution. We have said that there are positive points in the resolution, but the aggressor should be identified first. Therefore, we have agreed with the secretary general's plan, because the plan has left this issue open and allows freedom for the aggressor to be identified first.

[Afshar] Mr Rafiqdust, I have another question concerning the Fajr plane. We heard in this program that the plane was designed by Iranian engineers, that it was not copied. The technology needed to design a plane is far more complicated than the technology needed to copy one. Of course, both need complicated technology. However, designing a plane is more complex than copying one. In view of the fact that our intention is not to say that we have gained access to the technology of designing a plane but to gain access to the plane, how is it that our brothers in the IRGC did not work on copying but started designing the plane?

[Rafiqdust] I should state that copying and designing planes are not two different things. Copying processes prevailing in the world consist of technical data and the sketches being taken from a manufacturer and thereby making a copy of the plane. But this does not apply to us. We take a weapon and take it apart. We draw a sketch, without any foreign help. This, in itself, is a type of designing. However, we work in both fields. In other words, we are both copying the surface-to-surface missile and designing it, too.

Two types of planes are now being copied, and, God willing, in Shahrivar 1367 [month beginning 23 August 1988] one of them—an important plane—will fly, with the help of God and the prayers of our imam and our people. Another type is also being copied. Of course, this type is not so important as the first. However, two other types are being designed. We do not sit and wait to take a plane apart if we have anything we can design. Therefore, we use both fields, and, thank God, we have not yet faced a deadlock in either.

[Afshar] Thank God. It has been said that one of the reasons an arms embargo will not be very effective is that the Islamic Republic of Iran is not greatly dependent on arms; it depends on battle tactics and the quality of its combatant forces. Moreover, many of the arms—such as artillery bullets, mortars, and mortar-launchers—as you yourself have stated, are manufactured domestically, and we have faced no problems in this. With the domestic production of these, we have saved at least $1 billion in foreign exchange. This is one issue. Another is that the government has stated that it is proud that last year most foreign exchange was allocated to the war. What was this additional foreign exchange allocated to the war used for?

[Rafiqdust] The government has never reduced the rial and foreign exchange allocations for the war; it has always paid as much as necessary and even more than the specified amount. However, the question is that the additional foreign exchange...

[Afshar, interrupting] Yes, that is the question.

[Rafiqdust] Since the beginning of the "Karbala'-5" operations, our attacks on the enemy cannot be compared with the past. In an interview I stated that one of the Iraqi brigades—which was under the command of a colonel who was taken captive, and to whom I spoke at headquarters—was completely destroyed by our artillery. The heavy attacks since the "Karbala'-5" operations have been intense and effective. We even believe that the bullets we manufacture are more effective than others, because they are coupled with the grace of God and the hizballah ummah. Of course, this is our reactionary view [as heard], and we accept it.

Certainly these bullets are more effective because they have been built by a pious Muslim, by a hizballah. Therefore, we cannot compare either our artillery platoons or the guns and battalions of our artillery, which have increased manyfold in comparison with the past. The same applies to the volume of our fire at the enemy. This, too, cannot be compared with the past. We now have heavy fire against the enemy, and since the "Karbala'-5" operation, every Iraqi POW we have spoken with has said that we have created a hell. I can say that in some cases we have fired two times greater amounts on the enemy.

[Afshar] Mr Rafiqdust, these arms being manufactured by our brothers, some of which you stated are in the trial production stage and others in the mass production stage, if all these are mass produced and used, how will the war develop, in your opinion?

[Rafiqdust] With each step we go forward we will have more and better arms that will be more effective. As you yourselves have stated, while having faith and love in Imam Husayn—who makes our combatants progress—we should also do what the holy Koran tells us, and rally whatever force we can for them and give our combatants more capabilities. We have already seen the impact this has had on the war. This impact will grow each day, and the fate of the war will be determined more easily.

[Afshar] Mr Kharrazi, reports have been received from here and there that a series of international efforts are being made to end the war of the cities. Do you have any comments on this for our viewers?

[Kharrazi] Yes, efforts have been made to end the war of the cities. After all, in our opinion this is inhuman action; if we participate in this war, it is only to prevent Iraq from continuing such crimes and such inhuman acts. A number of heads of state have made such an appeal. Messrs al-Qadhdhafi, Ziaul Haq, and Ozal have made such appeals. Some other countries have also appealed. There is also the Soviet plan that has been submitted to the Security Council. However, Iraq has responded negatively to all these appeals. We have said from the beginning that we did not start the war of the cities, that we oppose a war of cities, that we will never start one, that we are only retaliating, and that we will stop whenever Iraq stops.

But if it does not stop, we will pound strongly and force it to stop. This is one of the reasons Iraq started the war of the cities. Iraq's objective, in other words, was to force us by pressure to surrender; they still do not accept these appeals. Actually, this is proof that it was Iraq that started this war and is now obstinately refusing to stop it. However, it definitely cannot continue it for a long time, because it will suffer more harm than us and will gain no benefits from this futile attempt.

[Afshar] Mr Rafiqdust, I would like to ask you a final question. It is a technical question, and I do not know if it should be asked here or not. When we speak of building a missile and of a missile, it is said this is a complicated weapon, etc. Our people—most of our people—do not know exactly where the complicated nature of a missile arises. Please explain for us why a missile is complicated; which part of its technology is complicated?

[Rafiqdust] There are two types of weapons today that are called missiles. One is a rocket, which operates like artillery—that is, it is launched at a target and it is not very important if it hits its target or not. The other type is a directed missile. A missile, in short, has a warhead which contains an explosive. All missiles have two types of fuel. One is the launching fuel and the other the flight fuel. The former launches the missile from its position, and the latter takes the missile to its target. These are common points in both rockets and missiles. There is no complication in either of these, apart from the type of fuel used.

Fortunately, we can mass produce various types of missile fuel now, and we solved this problem before solving the problem of the missile. What is complicated in missile technology is the direction and control of a missile, an area in which advances are constantly being made. The two superpowers have built missiles with 8,000- to 9,000-km ranges to be used against each other. This direction and control stage programs a missile to move from a point, under control, and to hit a target. This is complicated. But, thank God, our children have fully achieved this.

[Afshar] Thank you, dear brothers, for participating in this roundtable. We hope you will be ever more successful in your programs, especially you, Mr Rafiqdust, and our brothers in the building of war materiel.

Dear viewers, today's program ends here. We pray for the success and the final victory of the combatants of Islam, as well as for your success. Together with the participants in this political roundtable, Messrs Rafiqdust and Kharrazi, we bid you farewell, dear compatriots. God bless you and good night.

U.S., Iraq Agree on Gulf Cooperation

LD101336 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1030 GMT 10 Mar 88

[Text] The United States and Iraq have reached agreement with regard to military cooperation in the Persian Gulf. According to U.S. radio, (Dan Howard), spokesman for the U.S. War Ministry [as heard], announced: Advantageous talks have been conducted between American and Iraqi officials in connection with military issues in the Persian Gulf. He said he could not reveal the details of the agreement between the United States and Iraq, but that it would become known to what degree the agreements reached would help the interests of the two countries. The U.S. War Ministry spokesman added: From now on Iraq will refrain from attacks and unintentional accidents in firing on U.S. ships.

Commentary on Support for Iraq, UN Embargo

LD101439 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1101 GMT 10 Mar 88

[Station commentary: "British and American Support for the Continuation of the War of the Cities"]

[Text] While the Iraqi regime continues its air raids and missile attacks on residential areas and nonmilitary targets, London and Washington are doing their best to prevent the implementation of the USSR's recent proposals. However, the undeniable shame and exposure of the air and missile attacks on residential areas prevents those governments from openly declaring their true motives and objectives here.

Thus, in practice, those governments, as well as France, have tried to show no interest in any discussion on halting the war of the cities. By describing such measures as ineffective, they are attempting to draw attention to Resolution 598 and the need for another resolution on an arms embargo against the Islamic Republic of Iran. Their primary goal is to prevent any attempt to stop the war of the cities. Obviously, their opposition, which has taken various forms, proves the baselessness of all their superficial claims and calls for peace, security, and the prevention of war and bloodshed. In addition, Iraq's resumption of continuous missile attacks has taken place in full coordination with those governments, or at least with their approval.

If this is not the case, and in light of the hideous nature of such condemned actions as the destruction of residential areas and the massacre of civilians, the UN Security Council should have explictly denounced the Iraqi regime's criminal activity and taken measures to stop it. That would have been in line with international norms and regulations.

In an interview yesterday, the head of the Soviet Foreign Ministry's information and international administration [title as heard] made it clear that his country has supplied certain missiles to the Iraqi regime. He declared: A consignment of short-range missiles was sent to Iraq, but their range is too short to reach Tehran. The USSR has never allow any modification of those missiles, and did not anticipate their modernization either. A number of senior government officials have said that any modification in the range of the missiles would be a breach of the current treaty between Baghdad and the USSR.

In view of these statements and the undeniable enormity of the air raids and missile attacks on residential and civilian areas, it would be appropriate for the USSR to extend its efforts beyond the limits of the Security Council. Given its long-standing relations with the Iraqi regime and the violation of its treaty represented by the modification of the missiles' range, it would be proper for the USSR to take a series of prompt and practical measures to halt Baghdad's latest atrocities. That would be particularly suitable, as Soviet officials have repeatedly voiced their opposition to the resumption and continuation of the war of the cities.

In any case, the evidence as a whole shows that Western governments, especially Britain and the United States, support the war of the cities in practice through their full coordination and consent. At the same time, they are trying to promote a resolution on an arms embargo against the Islamic Republic of Iran. They are also hatching new conspiracies to bring the Islamic Republic under pressure on the pretext of implementing such a resolution.

If non-Western governments were to submit and agree to a resolution on the imposition of an arms embargo, and if they were to endorse the Reagan administration's current policy, they would actually be taking the first step toward falling into plots that would in no way serve their own short- or long-term interests. As such, it would be proper for these governments to demand the identification and punishment of the aggressor in view of the Islamic Republic's just demands. It would also be appropriate for them to resist the Reagan administration's pressure and the plots of Western governments. Clearly, were they to voice their explicit opposition to the current atrocities of the Iraqi regime and announce their own practical measures, that would be interpreted as a preliminary step toward dissociating themselves from such conspirators as Britain and the United States.

In any event, a unanimous vote in the council will not undermine the Iranian nation's firm resolve to continue the battle until final victory.

Tudeh Party Urges Acceptance of Resolution 598

LD050351 (Clandestine) Radio of the Iranian Toilers in Persian 1530 GMT 4 Mar 88

[Statement issued by the Tudeh Party Central Committee on 2 March; place not given]

[Text] UN Resolution No 598 must be accepted and implemented to end the destructive war. Dear compatriots, the horrific tragedy represented by bomb and missile attacks on cities has again plunged every corner of our homeland into a state of fear and great mourning. The latest round in the war of the cities has left hundreds of defenseless people dead or wounded in Iran and Iraq. Others have been made homeless, and have been forced to flee the cities in a state of exceptionally great fear, anxiety, and insecurity.

Tehran and other cities in our homeland have been bombed and struck by dozens of surface-to-surface missiles with a range of more than 600 km by Saddam's criminal regime. There have been bombings and missiles fired at Iraq in response by the Islamic Republic. This is an unprecedented crime, the principal motivator and cause of which is the warmongering Khomeyni regime. That is the government's New Year's present to the oppressed and suffering people of our homeland.

By ignoring and refusing to accept UN Security Council Resolution No 598, the regime insists on treading the path of continued war and endless killing. This war benefits the imperialists, led by U.S. imperialism, as well as regional reactionaries, international arms traders, and the antination, antipeople, and expansionist regime of the Islamic Republic. All these forces are its brokers and profiteers.

UN Security Council Resolution No 598, which is a product of the struggles for peace waged by the peoples of Iran and the world, and the ceaseless and responsible efforts of peace-loving international forces, is a suitable and sensible basis for concluding a just peace. Hundreds more of our compatriots are being rolled in blood and dust these days. This is a direct result of the obstinacy of the regime, which has refused to accept the resolution for the last 8 months. This stubbornness may bring additional horrific tragedies inside our homeland and in the region.

Writing letters and resorting deviously to the United Nations, while portraying the war as the wish of Iran's peace-seeking people, is all part of the Islamic Republic's recognized plot to buy time and continue the war. The regime does not allow the release of true figures for the dead, wounded, and homeless in the war of the cities. Its goal is to mask the extent of the tragedy and to prevent people from helping each other, showing sympathy toward each other, and getting together. All that would bring an expansion of their resistance and devastating fury.

The state of alert declared among the IRGC, the committees, and the other repressive bodies is a sign that the regime is terrified. It lives in fear of an uprising of the suffering people, which would seek to end the war and the shameful lives of the warmongers.

The vigilant people of our homeland vastly prefer a proud death on the path of struggle against the ruling warmongers in the fight for peace. Such a death would be a thousand times better than sacrifice in criminal bombings and missile attacks on cities. O you noble and peace-loving people of Iran, the Tudeh Party of Iran expresses its deep disgust and abhorrence at these horrific crimes.

It sympathizes with the injured and grieving people of our homeland. Once again, it calls on all compatriots to fight against the national calamity represented by the continuation of the conflict. Our people must close the ranks of resistance all the more tightly against the warmongering regime so as to establish peace.

The regime's policy of continuing the war has fallen into an unbreakable impasse. In the face of our people's desire for peace and the pressure of world opinion, the regime has no choice but to surrender. The regime's continuous bragging and bellicose behavior are signs of its growing weakness and a reflection of the strength of the peace forces. However, the regime will not end the war voluntarily. If the war is to be brought to an end, the unbeatable force of the masses must join the fray. The cause of peace demands a broad and united struggle.

Dear compatriots, by organizing antiwar committees in cities and villages, in factories and workshops, and in every street and neighborhood, let us rise, united and organized, against the continuation of the war and against this bloodstained regime of warmongers. Tell people about the tragedies, bombings, and missiles, as well as the regime's plots to continue the war. Let us bring greater cohesion and unity to the ranks of the resistance in the fight to end the war and establish peace by collaborating, sympathizing, and helping each other.

Let your cries of anger and objection to the regime's stubborn refusal to accept UN Security Council Resolution No 598 grow louder still. Let your cries reach the ears of the peoples of the world. Expose the tricks being played by the regime in its approach to Resolution No 598 and its policy of neither rejecting nor accepting the document. That is only a maneuver to silence the calls for peace from the peoples of Iran and the world, and an escape from the current impasse and crisis.

Demand an unconditional cease-fire as a step toward a just peace. An end to the war and the establishment of peace are the unchangeable demands of our people, and they must be achieved. Security Council Resolution No 598 must be accepted unconditionally and put into practice. May the struggle against the war and the warmongering regime grow wider still. Shame and contempt for the warring criminals. End the war! Long live peace!

[Signed] Central Committee of the Tudeh Party of Iran

[Dated] 2 March 1988

Pakistan

Afghan Envoy Summoned Over Shelling in Khurram

BK110546 Islamabad Overseas Service in Urdu 0500 GMT 11 Mar 88

[Text] On 2 March, the Afghan forces fired about 50 artillery rounds which landed near the Arawali area in Khurram Agency, killing four Afghan refugees and injuring five others.

On Saturday [5 March], two artillery rounds fired by Afghan forces landed in the Ali Mangal area in Khurram Agency, killing two Pakistanis and two Afghan nationals.

The Afghan charge d'affaires was summoned to the Foreign Office yesterday and a strong protest was lodged with him over these unprovoked attacks.

Junejo Discusses Geneva Talks at Meeting

BK101552 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 10 Mar 88

[Text] Prime Minister Mohammad Khan Junejo has said that any decision on signing the Geneva agreement will be made only after the current process of consulting the people is concluded.

He affirmed that any decision made will be in the supreme interest of the brotherly people of Pakistan and Afghanistan. He said this while addressing a meeting on the Afghanistan problem attended by various sections of society. The prime minister said he wants to reach a consensus on a national level regarding the important issues.

He said the ideas and philosophy expressed by the speakers at the meeting would be carefully considered in any decision-making process in this connection.

The prime minister said no decision has been made on signing the Geneva agreement, nor has there been any move in this direction. He added that when making a decision on this important national issue, Pakistan's interests will receiver the utmost importance.

He noted that after listening to the views of the elected representatives in Parliament and some political leaders, he considered it appropriate to go to the provincial capitals to hold consultations with various sections of society to learn their views.

The prime minister said that next to the withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan, Pakistan attaches the greatest importance to the return of the Afghan refugees to their homes in honor and security. He said conditions conducive to their honorable, safe return must be created.

This objective can be achieved only when a government is established in Kabul that is acceptable to the Afghan people. The prime minister appealed to the two superpowers to ensure favorable conditions for the return of Afghan refugees.

The prime minister said Pakistan's minister of state for foreign affairs and other representatives have visited Saudi Arabia, the United States, the United Kingdom, China, and Iran.

Moreover, he said we are also in touch with the 123 UN members who have always supported Pakistan's position on Afghanistan. The aim of these contacts is to keep them informed of the latest events and to hold consultations with them.

The prime minister traced in detail the background of the Afghan problem and threw light on the efforts being made at the Geneva proximity talks for a peaceful solution of this problem. The prime minister answered various questions from those present at the meeting.

About 16 speakers addressed the Afghan problem, including representatives of religious scholars, journalists, women, workers, and elected representatives. They commended the prime minister's efforts to arrive at a consensus on this problem.

The Punjab chief minister, Mr Nawaz Sharif, said the meeting is part of the government's efforts to gain the people's confidence on the Afghan issue through consultations.

Punjab Governor Sajjad Hussain Qureshi; Federal Ministers Mian Mohammad Yasin, Khan Wattoo, and Chaudhury Shujat Hussain; the Punjab Assembly speaker; and members of parliament and provincial assemblies attended the meeting.

Sri Lanka

India Reportedly To Meet With Tamil Groups

BK110909 Hong Kong AFP in English 0903 GMT 11 Mar 88

[Text] Colombo, March 11 (AFP)—India may soon hold talks with Sri Lankan Tamil groups, a rebel spokesman said here Friday.

"We have been told by Indian officials that there are going to be talks," a spokesman for the Eelam People's Revolutionary Liberation Front (EPRLF) said. "But we don't know when they will be held. Maybe next week," he told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE.

The Indian High Commission here declined to comment on the EPRLF claim. "I am not aware of it and I cannot say anything," a spokeswoman said. High Commissioner Jyotindra Nath Dixit, one of the architects of the 1987 peace pact, is currently in New Delhi.

The EPRLF spokesman said he was not aware if the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE), the dominant rebel group, would be invited.

The LTTE is the only Tamil guerrilla group to reject a 1987 Indo-Sri Lankan peace accord aimed at ending the Tamil separatist conflict on the island.

India has said it would talk to the LTTE only if the group accepts the peace pact and surrenders its weapons.

Five groups—the left-wing EPRLF, the Eelam Revolutionary Organisation of Students (EROS), the Tamil Eelam Liberation Organisation (TELO), the People's Liberation Organisation of Tamil Eelam (PLOTE) and Eelam National Democratic Liberation Front (ENDLF)—have accepted the pact.

The island's main Tamil party, the moderate Tamil United Liberation Front (TULF), has also accepted the agreement.

The EPRLF was also appealing to India and Sri Lanka to release Tamils still in prison, the spokesman said.

All those suspected of being linked to the Tamil separatist conflict were to have been released under the peace pact.

But some 1,200 Tamils, arrested during the campaign for a homeland, were still imprisoned, the spokesman said.

"We have raised the matter with the Indian High Commission as well as with the External Affairs Ministry in New Delhi and they have promised to take up the issue," he said.

The LTTE has repeatedly clashed with militants supporting the peace pact, in particular with members of the EPRLF, PLOTE and TELO, in the island's north and east.

The EPRLF, which is known to be active in the east, was recognised as a political party last month—the only rebel group to receive the status.